

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### HONORING THE WESTERN WAYNE COUNTY CONSERVATION CLUB

**HON. THADDEUS G. McCOTTER**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 8, 2008*

Mr. McCOTTER. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor and acknowledge the Western Wayne County Conservation Club, a group dedicated to the preservation and continuation of outdoor sporting for all generations, upon reaching their 70th anniversary of the club's establishment.

The Western Wayne County Conservation Club provides many services to the Michigan community. The Club has created more opportunities for outdoor sporting with their sponsorship of a launching trap and skeet fields, a 3-D walk-thru archery range, and a black powder group with a walk-thru range. Additionally, The Wayne County Conservation Club has fundraisers for the Pinkerton School for the Blind, the Rouge River Clean-up, hunter education classes, Girl Scout and Boy Scout camping activities, and for the University of Michigan Burn Center.

The Western Wayne County Conservation Club has been recognized for their dedication to outdoor sports. The Club has received prominent awards including the President's Award from the National Wildlife Federations, North American Hunter's Safety Award, and the National Rifle Association President's Award. To the Michigan community, the Wayne County Conservation Club is an organization dedicated to their goals, committed to serving their community and defending Americans' Second Amendment Rights.

Madam Speaker, the Western Wayne County Conservation Club is a group which has mastered outdoor sporting and has excelled in using their mission to help other community organizations. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Western Wayne County Conservation Club for reaching 70 years as an organization and honoring the group's devoted service to the community and our country.

### CONGRATULATING BRIAR BUSH NATURE CENTER ON ITS 100TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. ALLYSON Y. SCHWARTZ**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 8, 2008*

Ms. SCHWARTZ. Madam Speaker, I rise before you today to congratulate Briar Bush Nature Center on the occasion of its 100th anniversary. Briar Bush Nature Center is a true testament to community outreach and wildlife preservation, both in its work over the past century and in its very roots.

In 1908, a Quaker couple, Everett and Florence Griscom, fell in love with a twelve acre plot in the heart of Abington, Pennsylvania.

They found the area so beautiful that they began inviting friends and family to spend days with them in the tranquil area and soon, local children and adults began flocking to the refuge that the Griscoms had fondly named "Briar Bush."

After the Griscoms passed away, area residents led by T. Russell Frank established the "Friends of Briar Bush" organization, which was instrumental in encouraging the Township to acquire the land in 1962. The Friends of Briar Bush carried on the Griscoms' mission by offering the woodland retreat as a Natural Education Center for local children and adults.

Over the years, Briar Bush has become an important facet of the Abington Community. In 2000, the Center implemented a renovation project to make the Center even more visitor-friendly and expanded their education programs, which has enabled the Center to serve over 47,000 visitors annually.

Briar Bush programs have received numerous awards, including "Best of Philly." The Briar Bush day camp is currently in the running for a Nickelodeon "Parents Pick Award" for the best day camp for small children.

The Briar Bush Nature Center is a true Abington community treasure. It is my pleasure to stand before you to honor this special organization for achieving its' 100th anniversary milestone. It is my most sincere hope that Briar Bush will continue to educate our community about the joy of nature for many years to come.

### RECOGNIZING EMERGENCY MAN- AGEMENT, DISASTER RECOVERY AND RELIEF EFFORTS IN DEAR- BORN COUNTY

**HON. MIKE PENCE**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 8, 2008*

Mr. PENCE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and recognize the extraordinary contributions of emergency management, disaster response, and recovery personnel as well as elected officials and community leaders in my district which was devastated by the recent severe weather in Indiana.

I wish particularly to honor the Board of Commissioners, County Council, and all the other outstanding individuals in Dearborn County who rose to the occasion during these difficult times. This area suffered greatly from severe storms and weather, creating a catastrophe of nature that inflicted injuries, destroyed property, and displaced many of our citizens. In response, these officials went above and beyond the call of duty, showing great poise while saving many lives and serving the people of their communities.

Madam Speaker, I commend these fine men and women for their tremendous dedication to the Hoosier families, businesses, farmers and communities that they serve. As Hoosiers continue to recover from Mother Nature's fury, I

feel confident that the people of Dearborn County will be well served by these officials.

### RECOGNITION OF ENERGY, CITI- ZENS, AND ECONOMIC TRANS- FORMATION FOR INDIANA AND AMERICA EVENT AT THE UNI- VERSITY OF NOTRE DAME

**HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 8, 2008*

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Energy, Citizens, and Economic Transformation for Indiana and America event held on July 7, 2008, sponsored by the University of Notre Dame Energy Center. This conference brought together leaders in energy research from the University of Notre Dame, the U.S. Department of Energy, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Purdue University, the state of Indiana, and academic think tanks.

The University of Notre Dame Energy Center was established in 2005 to develop new technologies for energy efficiency, safe nuclear waste storage, clean coal utilization, CO<sub>2</sub> separation and sequestration, and alternative renewable energy sources. The Center also plays a key role in energy education and literacy, affecting energy policy and exploring the ethical implications associated with energy sources, availability and policy. It involves approximately 25 faculty members in the Colleges of Engineering, Science, Arts & Letters and Business. The Notre Dame Energy Center and its faculty members have funding support from the U.S. Department of Energy and extensive collaborations with researchers at Sandia, Argonne National Labs and the National Energy Technology Laboratory.

Meeting U.S. energy needs in an environmentally sustainable manner without jeopardizing economic growth or national security interests through undue reliance on foreign energy sources is arguably our most demanding challenge. Achieving this goal will require multiple solutions and strategies. To meet this challenge, the University of Notre Dame, through their Energy Center and conferences such as this, combines existing research expertise and new research infrastructure with visionary thinkers from both Indiana and the federal government.

A collaboration also is currently being undertaken by the Notre Dame Energy Center that addresses the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, which is a resource that is very important to the Northwest Indiana community. This project seeks to provide energy-related consulting services to the park during the coming summer months that will promote the responsible use of an irreplaceable national treasure. As part of the project, students will track and quantify the cost savings related to energy use reduction and lower greenhouse gas emissions. This collaboration will help preserve the unique ecosystem of the Indiana

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



Dunes National Lakeshore and will allow future generations to enjoy this tremendous natural, educational, and recreational asset of Northwest Indiana.

I would like to thank Dr. Joan Brennecke and Dr. Paul Bohn for organizing the July 7th event and for their tireless work in addressing our nation's energy problems. The conference will offer Hoosiers the opportunity to hear from state and national leaders in energy research. While prices at the gas pumps may be getting most of the attention now, the energy crisis is about more than just oil. As a nation, with the help of our research universities, we need to continue efforts in examining our entire mix of energy sources and how to go about changing that mix over the long term in order to increase our economic and national security.

The state of Indiana and its industries can benefit from this type of research and discussion, and I believe that Indiana will be at the forefront of this nation's energy revolution. The sluggish economy and increasing energy costs have left families struggling to make ends meet. The work being done by those involved at this event seek to ease their burden and create the next generation of energy-related jobs in Indiana.

#### COMMEMORATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CITY OF RIVERDALE, GEORGIA

#### HON. DAVID SCOTT

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 8, 2008*

Mr. SCOTT of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to offer my congratulations to the City of Riverdale, Georgia for reaching its 100th anniversary this July. Home to over 15,000 people, this great city, on the outskirts of the bustling city of Atlanta, is known for its close knit communities, beautiful landscapes and abundant resources. With a rich history of vibrant festivals and community building activities, Riverdale prides itself on promoting the well-being of its residents. This city was formally founded in 1908 as a railroad depot. However, its history traces back to before the Civil War and owes much of its early success to a generous donation of land by Mr. and Mrs. W.S. Rivers, who wanted to see the area and its businesses thrive and prosper.

The City of Riverdale will mark the occasion by holding a Centennial Celebration. This celebration will include a full commemoration of the centennial year as well as a tribute to Riverdale's rich history. Additionally, the Centennial Celebration will strive to educate the public on the history of Riverdale, encourage community involvement and recognize organizations, businesses, and institutions that have been a part of this city for 100 years. Among the events planned for this celebration are a Centennial Parade, concerts and picnics, a Centennial Gala and a Tree Planting, as well as other activities designed to further foster a greater sense of involvement among the city's residents.

I would like to recognize Dr. Evelyn Wynn-Dixon, Mayor of Riverdale, along with City Council members Rick Scoggins, Wayne Franklin Hall, Wanda Wallace, and Kenneth Ruffin for their hard work and dedication to this community. And congratulations are cer-

tainly due to the great residents of this city who are the true heart of this community. Their hard work, family values, and commitment contribute to the daily growth of Riverdale. I look forward to seeing the continual development and prosperity of this city and it is an honor to represent them in the United States Congress.

In closing, I would like to extend my congratulations to the city of Riverdale for marking its 100th Anniversary and I wish them a healthy and prosperous one hundred more.

#### TRIBUTE TO LISA KOLL

#### HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 8, 2008*

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a great achievement by the Fort Dodge, Iowa native and current member of the Iowa State University women's track team, Lisa Koll. Lisa earned a national championship in the NCAA women's 10,000 meter race.

Although Lisa never won a state championship in her career at Fort Dodge High School, as a collegiate sophomore, she won a national title on the same blue track at Drake University where the Iowa High School State Championships are held. She is the first Iowa State track athlete to win a national championship since 1984 after completing the over six mile race in 32:44.95—short of her own American collegiate record of 32:11.13 set earlier this spring, but good enough for a Drake Stadium Record and national championship.

Lisa's impressive feat demonstrates the reward for hard work, dedication and determination. I am honored to represent Lisa Koll in the United States Congress, and I know that all of my colleagues join me in congratulating her on her national championship and wish her success in her future running career.

#### IN COMMEMORATION OF THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UKRAINIAN GENOCIDE ON THE OCCASION OF THE WALK AGAINST GENOCIDE IN NEW YORK CITY

#### HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 8, 2008*

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the genocide perpetrated on the Ukrainian people by Joseph Stalin's murderous Soviet regime. This month, countless Ukrainian-Americans and persons of goodwill, including members of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America and the United Ukrainian American Organizations of New York, join together in a Walk Against Genocide in New York City in remembrance of the terrible events in the Ukraine in 1932–33 that took the lives of millions. Participants in the Walk are honoring the Ukrainians who perished in the famine by observing a moment of remembrance.

Three quarters of a century ago, the Ukrainian genocide, also referred to as the Holodomor, or "Death by Starvation," was

consciously inflicted upon the Ukrainian people by the totalitarian tyranny of dictator Joseph Stalin. With its radical agricultural collectivization policies, Stalin's brutal Soviet regime caused widespread famine and mass starvation, systematically murdering millions of innocent men, women and children.

The Holodomor was an intentional act perpetrated against the Ukrainians as punishment for their resistance to Soviet control. Evidence in the form of recently released KGB archival documents reveal the Soviet government's ruthless plans. The Commission on the Ukraine Famine created by the United States Congress in 1985 issued a report 3 years later confirming the existence of a deliberate policy to starve the Ukrainian people and concluded in 1988 that "Joseph Stalin and those around him committed genocide against Ukrainians in 1932–1933."

In sheer numbers, this genocidal tragedy ranks among the worst examples of man's inhumanity towards man, and offers one of history's starkest examples of the devastation that is wrought by oppressive governments when they use food as a weapon. The Holodomor was perhaps the greatest national catastrophe in the history of the Ukraine, and its emotional repercussions still affect the Ukrainian people to this day.

By remembering that horrific period, we work towards a day when such atrocities will never again occur in the world. This year, the 75th anniversary of the famine was commemorated in Kiev and indeed throughout the world. All Americans should join in remembering this historical atrocity and resolve to act against future crimes against humanity. The Walk Against Genocide not only serves to commemorate the innocent men, women and children of the Ukraine who lost their lives, but also to take a stand against acts of genocide that still occur in the world today. The Walk Against Genocide is thus an uplifting manifestation of the enduring resilience of the human spirit.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my distinguished colleagues join me in saluting the participants in the Walk Against Genocide and in recognizing the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America and the United Ukrainian American Organizations of New York on the occasion of the 75th anniversary commemorating the Ukrainian genocide.

#### BIRTHDAY WISHES FOR LOUIS E. TESSIER, THE SUPERVISOR OF THE TOWN OF LAKE GEORGE, NY

#### HON. KIRSTEN E. GILLIBRAND

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 8, 2008*

Mrs. GILLIBRAND. Madam Speaker, it is my honor to rise today on behalf of Louis E. Tessier, the Supervisor of the Town of Lake George, in recognition of his 80th birthday on July 19, 2008. I extend my congratulations on this special occasion to Lou, his wife Mary, his daughter, Rene, and to his entire family.

Mr. Tessier has a distinguished career in public service. He was elected into and has held his office since 1984. He served as the Warren County Budget Officer from 1992 through 1995 and as the Warren County Chairman of the Board of Supervisors from



1996 through 2000. He has served on a long list of many of the county's committees—everything from Airport to Youth Programs. During his career, he has also been appointed to the following:

Board of Directors of the Warren-Hamilton Counties Action Committee for Economic Opportunity, Inc.; Warren County Sewer Commission; County Jury Board Member; Advisory Council for Warren-Hamilton Counties Office for the Aging; Warren County Traffic Safety Board; Warren County Deferred Compensation Program; Warren County Representative of the Adirondack Park Centennial Committee; Industrial Development Agency; Warren County Labor/Management Committee; Inter-County Committee of the Legislative Bodies of the Adirondack Representatives; Adirondack/Glens Falls Transportation Council; Warren County Local Development Corporation (LDC); Warren County LDC—Executive Committee of the Board of Directors; Inter-County Solid Waste Coordinating Committee; Bi-County Ad Hoc Committee for Burn Plant Negotiations; Negotiating Committee for Burn Plant Acquisition; Warren County Criminal Justice Advisory Board, Alternatives to Incarceration Service Plans; Sub-committee on Revenue Enhancement; Airport Consultant Selection Board; Lake Champlain—Lake George Regional Planning Board; Bi-County Ad Hoc Committee for Hartford Landfill Negotiations.

Please join me, the Town of Lake George, the people of Warren County and New York's 20th Congressional District in wishing Supervisor Lou Tessier a very happy 80th Birthday.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO NEVADA  
AIPAC DELEGATION

**HON. JON C. PORTER**

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 8, 2008*

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, it is my distinct pleasure to rise today to honor the Nevada delegation from the American Israel Public Affairs Committee. I am delighted to have my colleagues in the Nevada Congressional Delegations, Representatives SHELLY BERKLEY and DEAN HELLER, join me in recognizing the advocacy efforts of the AIPAC delegation.

The Nevada delegation from the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC) recently visited Washington, DC to advocate on behalf of Israel and ensure that American support for Israel remains strong. AIPAC is working to promote strategic cooperation between the two nations, to develop sound U.S. anti-terrorist policies, to share homeland security techniques and technologies, and to stop rogue nations such as Iran from acquiring weapons of mass destruction.

Following several days of meetings and speakers, the Nevada delegation visited with their Congressional Representatives to advocate on behalf of these ideals and share their views with the Nevada Congressional delegation. It is truly an honor to meet with such dedicated advocates. AIPAC has a strong record of creating citizen advocates who are passionate about pro-Israel issues and are dedicated to learning how they can affect Israel's future and security by promoting strong ties with the United States.

This years Nevada AIPAC delegation included: Ms. Ariel Shalin, Miss Heather Brown,

Ms. Adriel Espinoza, Mr. Michael Roitman, Mr. Andrew Spivak, Mr. Michael Thomas, Ms. Sara Kantor, Mr. Max Berkley, Dr. Stanley Ames, Mrs. Georgia Ames, Dr. Allen Anes, Mrs. Eileen Anes, Mr. Eli Applebaum, Ms. Vanessa Aragon, Mr. Jerome Blut, Mrs. Arlene Blut, Rabbi Hershel Brooks, Ms. Diane Brounstein, Mr. Jonathan Craft, Mr. David Dahan, Mr. Bob Dubin, Mrs. Shelley Dubin, Mr. Peter Dubowsky, Mr. Leslie Dunn, Mrs. Joan Dunn, Mrs. Liz Goodman, Mr. David Jacobson, Mrs. Jewell Jacobson, Ms. Eva Kallick, Ms. Stephanie Lehrner, Dr. Larry M. Lehrner, Dr. Marc Leitner, Ms. Terri Greer, Ms. Vivian Perlmutter, Mr. Brett Primack, Mrs. Christina Primack, Mr. Joshua J. Primack, Mr. Jordan Primack, Mrs. Deborah Primack, Mrs. Laurie Robinson, Dr. Joseph Shalev, Mrs. Batsheva Shalev, Ms. Lisa Skurow, Ms. Nicole Steiner, Mr. David Stone, Mr. Steven Strasser, Mrs. Sharon Strasser, Mr. Stuart Blake Tener, Mr. Sam Ventura, Mrs. Rachael Ventura, Mr. Michael Werner, Mrs. Dana Werner, Mrs. Lynn Wexler, Rabbi Yitzack Wyne, Mr. Benny Yerushalmi, Mr. Elad Yerushalmi, Mr. Jeff Zucker, Mr. David-Jacques Farahi, Ms. Parinaz Farahi, Mr. Hy Kashenberg, Ms. Brenda L. Nelson, Ms. Tali Farahi, and Mr. Faramarz Yousefzadeh.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to recognize the Nevada AIPAC delegation. These individuals have dedicated themselves to a very worthy cause, and I applaud their efforts and wish them the best in their future endeavors.

HONORING HANK THOMPSON'S  
SERVICE TO SUMNER COUNTY

**HON. BART GORDON**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 8, 2008*

Mr. GORDON of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor my friend, Hank Thompson, who passed away July 6.

As a County Commissioner, Mayor of Hendersonville and Sumner County Executive, Hank served the people of Sumner County for more than 25 years.

Hank always sought what was best for the people he represented. He was a very forward-thinking public servant and a good friend and adviser to me. I worked with him for many years and always admired his passion and love for his community.

Following the devastating Gallatin tornado in 2006, Hank was the first person to contact me to get federal assistance for storm victims. He also led the local assistance effort, helping people put their lives back together and rebuild their communities.

He was a tireless advocate for the people of Sumner County and his contributions to the families there are countless. Whether it was building bridges, expanding highways, creating greenways or building new baseball and soccer fields, Hank was always Sumner County's number one advocate. I spent many hours in his car, driving from community to community while he showed me projects he envisioned for the area.

He served on the boards of numerous organizations, including Children Are People, Inc.; the Jason Foundation and Youth Inc. Hank was a member of the Homeland Security Region Executive Board, Regional Transit Au-

thority Board, Tennessee Municipal League Board, Sumner County Resource Agency, U.S. Conference of Mayors, Hendersonville and Gallatin Chambers of Commerce, Civitan Club and Rotary Club.

Hank served his state and nation as a first lieutenant in the Tennessee National Guard.

Hank will be missed by his wife, Nancy, his children Nick, Lance and Amanda and his many friends in Sumner County and across Tennessee.

TRIBUTE TO GENERAL ROBERT  
MAGNUS, USMC

**HON. IKE SKELTON**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 8, 2008*

Mr. SKELTON. Madam Speaker, it has come to my attention that a distinguished military career is coming to an end. General Robert Magnus, U.S. Marine Corps, is retiring from active duty after serving our nation for 40 years.

General Magnus enlisted in the Navy in February 1968. He graduated from the University of Virginia in 1969 with a bachelor of arts degree in history and received a masters of science in business administration from Strayer College in 1993. He received a commission in June 1969 and completed the following military training schools: Naval Aviation flight training, nuclear safety officers course, survival evasion resistance and escape course, weapons and tactics instructors course, aviation safety command course, Marine Corps Command and Staff College, National War College, CAPSTONE Course, Joint Force Air Component Commanders Course, Executive Business Course.

During his 40 years of service, General Magnus has served during several operation tours and held many squadron assignments. These include intelligence officer, HMM-264; operations officer, H&MS-15 SAR Detachment, Task Force Delta, Nam Phong, Thailand; training officer, Station Operations and Engineering Squadron, MCAS Quantico; aviation safety officer, MAG-26 and HMM-263; weapons and tactics instructor, MAG-26 and HMM-261; operations officer, MAG-29; executive officer, HMM-365, MAG-29; commanding officer HMM-365, MAG-29; commander, Marine Corps Air Bases Western Area; and deputy commander, Marine Forces Pacific.

General Magnus also has served in several staff assignments, including aviation assault medium lift requirements officer; chief, Logistics Readiness Center, joint staff; executive assistant to the director of the Joint Staff; head, Aviation Plans and Programs Branch; Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff for Aviation; Assistant Deputy Commandant for Plans, Policies, and Operations; and Deputy Commandant for Programs and Resources.

General Magnus's decorations and awards include: Distinguished Service Medal, Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit Medal, and the Navy Achievement Medal.

General Magnus is concluding his career having served as the Assistant Commandant of the Marine Corps. In this capacity, he has been the principal adviser to the Commandant of the Marine Corps on all decisions affecting



the readiness and future health of the Marine Corps. I am certain that the Members of the House will join me in honoring General Magnus and his family for their outstanding service to our country.

HONORING ANNE RAGSDALE

HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 8, 2008*

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Madam Speaker, as I come to the floor today to speak, friends and colleagues of Anne Ragsdale are gathering in Nashville to celebrate her life and her many contributions to her city and to her country. Anne Ragsdale was an extraordinary woman who chose to spend her life encouraging others and inspiring those of us who knew her to give selflessly of our time and talents. Anne Ragsdale believed in this great nation and its goodness and felt that every child who called America home should be able to dream big dreams and have those dreams come true. She embodied the spirit of philanthropy, never giving for any reason other than knowing that her gifts would make a positive difference in the lives of others. She did not focus on herself. She focused on the people around her: her family, her friends, her charitable causes, and her church. As a matter of fact, if she were standing here on this floor with me today, she would probably tell me to use the time focusing on a cause for human good and not to use the time talking about her. Those of us who called her our friend loved this trait in Anne.

Anne held a deep and abiding faith and was an active member of First Southern Methodist Church of Nashville and was a member of St. Paul Southern Methodist Church for 25 years. In the community, her true passion involved helping children in need and providing them with education in a safe and loving environment. She and her husband, Dick, have been wonderful supporters of scholarships and educational opportunities for children at schools throughout Tennessee.

She was a small businesswoman, homemaker, and activist for many charitable causes. She was also co-founder and board member of Birthright of Nashville, YMCA Community Action Programs and East Academy. She served on the board of directors of the Salvation Army, Nashville for 15 years and also on the board of Alive Hospice. She was a founding member of the Nashville Symphony's Schermerhorn Symphony Center. She especially enjoyed serving as the costume designer for the Nashville Children's Theatre.

Anne Ragsdale will be missed. Her participation and support will be missed by the schools, churches and organizations to which she provided leadership and support. She will be missed by her friends who leaned on her for support and comfort. She will be missed by the family she adored and cherished.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in appreciation of a life well lived.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 8, 2008*

Mr. WALSH of New York. Madam Speaker consistent with Republican transparency standards, the following is a disclosure for each of my requested projects in the Duncan Hunter National Defense Authorization Act of Fiscal Year 2009, H.R. 5658:

Requesting Member: Rep. JAMES T. WALSH.

Bill Number: H.R. 5658.

Account: Research, Development, Test and Evaluation, Army Account.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Syracuse Research Corporation.

Address of Requesting Entity: 6225 Running Ridge Rd., Syracuse, NY 13212.

Description of Request: Include \$4 million in H.R. 5658—Army Account RDT&E—Advanced Tactical Computer Science and Sensor Technology—to assist transition of the Foliage Penetrating, Reconnaissance, Surveillance, Tracking, and Engagement Radar (FORESTER) prototype to an operational configuration adding User specific capabilities.

The FORESTER Program is on-going with radar integration and testing continuing through the remainder of FY08 on the A160 Hummingbird. The Program objectives are being met, namely to detect and track moving dismounted soldiers and vehicles under foliage to a range of at least 30 km, and to detect and track people and vehicles in the open or through foliage to a range of at least 50 km. FORESTER can also detect and track moving low-altitude air vehicles such as helicopters, small Unmanned Aerial Vehicles, and aircraft to a range of 75 km. Additionally, FORESTER has a real-time radar mode to image targets concealed in the foliage. The FY09 request will provide funding necessary to transition FORESTER to the User community and apply the technology to additional platforms.

Currently, U.S. Forces have no radar capability to detect and track activity under foliage. FORESTER is an airborne sensor system that provides standoff and persistent wide-area surveillance of dismounted troops and vehicles moving through foliage. Designed and developed to fly on the A160 Hummingbird unmanned helicopter, FORESTER is one-of-a-kind technology providing the warfighter with all-weather, day-night target detection and tracking capability in real-time. This request would leverage the existing technology to accommodate other platforms and border surveillance applications. Specifically, transition the FORESTER prototype to an operational configuration adding User specific capabilities, including: performance improvements, platform integration, flight test execution, and demonstration of the system on new platforms.

RECOGNIZING EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT, DISASTER RECOVERY AND RELIEF EFFORTS IN ADAMS COUNTY

HON. MIKE PENCE

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 8, 2008*

Mr. PENCE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and recognize the extraordinary contributions of emergency management, disaster response, and recovery personnel as well as elected officials and community leaders in my district which was devastated by the recent severe weather in Indiana.

I wish particularly to honor the Board of Commissioners, County Council, and all the other outstanding individuals in Adams County who rose to the occasion during these difficult times. This area suffered greatly from severe storms and weather, creating a catastrophe of nature that inflicted injuries, destroyed property, and displaced many of our citizens. In response, these officials went above and beyond the call of duty, showing great poise while saving many lives and serving the people of their communities.

Madam Speaker, I commend these fine men and women for their tremendous dedication to the Hoosier families, businesses, farmers and communities that they serve. As Hoosiers continue to recover from Mother Nature's fury, I feel confident that the people of Adams County will be well served by these officials.

TRIBUTE TO SFC GREG HUBBY

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 8, 2008*

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize SFC Greg Hubby, a native of Boone, Iowa, as a recipient of a Bronze Star Medal for heroic achievement during combat operations in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. The Bronze Star is the fourth highest award that the Department of Defense gives for bravery, heroism, and meritorious service.

SFC Hubby earned the Bronze Star while he was a retention NCO with the 3rd Infantry Battalion, stationed in Mosul. During one of his helicopter trips to another outpost, their helicopter came under fire.

SFC Hubby's bravery goes above and beyond what we are asked of as citizens of this country. Although recruiters are typically non-deployable, SFC Hubby reached out to share in the sacrifices of our other brave men and women who have served in Iraq and Afghanistan by volunteering his service at a time of need. His heroism illustrates the compassion of Iowans; willing to risk their own lives for their country. For this I offer him my utmost congratulations and thanks for his service and sacrifice for this great nation.

I commend SFC Greg Hubby's courageousness and service, and I am honored to represent him in the United States Congress. I know my colleagues join me in recognizing his service and wishing him and his family the very best in their future endeavors.



IN RECOGNITION OF THE FORT TICONDEROGA ASSOCIATION ON THE OCCASION OF THE GRAND OPENING OF THE DEBORAH CLARKE MARS EDUCATION CENTER

**HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 8, 2008*

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today along with my colleague, the Honorable KIRSTEN GILLIBRAND to pay tribute to the Fort Ticonderoga Association, the non-profit organization chartered by the State University of New York Regents to administer the great National Historic Landmark at Fort Ticonderoga. This July, the Association will open the Deborah Clarke Mars Education Center, which will house an authentic re-creation of the *magasin du Roi*, or "King's Warehouse", that stood on the Fort's parade ground from 1756 to 1759, as well as facilities for educational programs, lectures, and symposia. This month, the Fort Ticonderoga Association also observed the 250th anniversary of one of the bloodiest conflicts of the French and Indian War, the Battle of Carillon, by staging a two-day re-enactment of the conflict.

The Fort Ticonderoga Association was organized in 1931. It has carried on the stewardship of the historic site by the Pell family, whose members have maintained the Fort since the early 19th century. William Ferris Pell, a noted businessman and preservationist, originally purchased Fort Ticonderoga and the surrounding lands to prevent the stripping of precious materials from the legendary stone forts that rest on the site. He established his summer home-turned-hotel, the Pavillion, on the beautiful grounds, offering affordable accommodations to travelers visiting the historic ruins for nearly six decades. Stephen Pell, his great-grandson, began restoration of the Fort and the Pavillion in 1908; subsequently, the site became a popular tourist destination and was added to the National Register of Historic Places.

Fort Ticonderoga and the surrounding grounds have a rich history. Its site was originally chosen for its strategic location on the Ticonderoga peninsula on the shore of Lake Champlain that protected the portage to nearby Lake George. At the time, it was the French Empire's southernmost fort in the New World and a sensitive and strategic military installation coveted by the world's two largest empires, the British and the French. This July will mark the 250th anniversary of the Battle of Carillon, a major battle in the French and Indian War in which outnumbered French troops led by Louis-Joseph le Marquis de Montcalm successfully and valiantly defeated a British attacking force. On July 8, 1758, British General James Abercromby led a British and colonial army of 16,000 men against a small French force of 3,200 entrenched at Fort Carillon (the original name of Fort Ticonderoga). Despite being outnumbered by more than 4 to 1, the French forces prevailed and forced the British to retreat. In honor of their victory, the French erected a cross on the battle site, of which a reproduction still stands at the "French Lines" even today. A year later, British forces under Lord Jefferey Amherst successfully conquered the Fort.

Fort Ticonderoga retained its strategic significance during the American Revolution. On May 10, 1775, American soldiers won their first victory in the Revolution when they captured Fort Ticonderoga in a surprise attack at dawn. The cannons from Ticonderoga were then hauled all the way across the Commonwealth of Massachusetts by troops led by Henry Knox, and used to successfully prosecute the Siege of Boston, driving the Redcoats away from the Massachusetts Bay.

Today, the Fort Ticonderoga Association strives to engage, educate, and entertain visitors by sharing the authentic stories of diverse cultures that met at the Ticonderoga peninsula in war and peace over the last 250 years. Its members achieve this goal through accurate historical interpretations, high standards of preservation, and able management of the Fort's world-class collections of scholarly works, through innovative educational offerings, and with operational excellence.

Under the diligent care of the Association, Fort Ticonderoga has earned numerous awards, including the Upstate History Alliance Award of Excellence, the Adirondack Architectural Heritage Award of Excellence for the Kings' Garden Restoration, and the Preservation League of New York State Award of Excellence. Fort Ticonderoga also received a State and Local History Certificate of Commendation from the American Association for "America's First Victory." Clearly, its role in American history left an important legacy for Fort Ticonderoga that resonates even today.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my distinguished colleagues join me in recognizing the enormous contributions to the preservation and stewardship of American history performed by the Fort Ticonderoga Association.

**PAYING TRIBUTE TO FATHER  
JOSEPH P. ANNESE**

**HON. JON C. PORTER**

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 8, 2008*

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, it is my distinct pleasure to rise today to honor my friend Father Joseph P. Annese by entering his name in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, the official record of the proceedings and debates of the United States Congress since 1873. Today I pay tribute to Father Joseph P. Annese for his years of dedicated service to the Boulder City community.

Father Joe has dedicated himself to the St. Andrew Catholic Community for thirty years. His passion for helping the community and his dedication to his calling has made Father Joe an essential part of the community.

Father Joe started his seminary years in the Divine World Seminary and was ordained in 1962. He then taught high school seminary in Erie, Pa., then in Bordertown, New Jersey, and finally in Verbum Dei High School in Watts, California. Before coming to Boulder City, Father Joe joined the Diocese of Reno/Las Vegas in 1971. He then became an associate pastor at St. James Parish in Las Vegas in 1971, where he served for one year, and was named an associate pastor at St. Christopher's Parish in North Las Vegas for five years. In 1978, Bishop McFarland assigned Father Joe as Pastor of the St. Andrew Catho-

lic Community in Boulder City, Nevada to build an entirely new complex of church offices, parish halls, multi-purpose classrooms, and a pastor's residence. The entire parish center was built and dedicated in 1981.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor Father Joe for his thirty years of service. Words cannot express how much Father Joe has done for the people and the city of Boulder City. His quest to touch the lives of and help as many people as possible, his devotion to his work, and his zeal to better the community are truly commendable and I applaud all his efforts.

**FAIRFAX COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION MARKS ITS 70TH ANNIVERSARY**

**HON. TOM DAVIS**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 8, 2008*

Mr. DAVIS of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the Fairfax County Planning Commission.

The Fairfax County Planning Commission's goal has been to advise the Board of Supervisors on all matters related to the orderly growth and development of Fairfax County. This includes the preparation of a comprehensive plan for the physical development of the county in addition to amending zoning and subdivision ordinances. The Commission provides citizens with an opportunity to voice their support for or opinion on developments in and around their community.

The Fairfax County Planning Commission was founded on Wednesday, July 6, 1938. Throughout the past 70 years, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors has appointed a total of 121 citizens to serve as commissioners. The Planning Commission consists of two standing committees, the Personnel and Budget Committee and Policy and Procedure Committee. Additionally, there are seven subcommittees honing their focus towards capital improvement, the environment, parks, redevelopment and housing, land use process review, school facilities, transportation, and Fort Belvoir. The Planning Commission and staff have held thousands of public hearings, hundreds of committee meetings, and have forwarded thousands of recommendations to promote orderly, balanced and equitable growth.

Fairfax County is a thriving, urban county with a population that exceeds that of seven States. The median household income is one of the highest in the Nation. Over half of the adult population has at least a bachelor's degree. His also home to George Mason University. With an enrollment of over 30,000 students, GMU is a leader in science, technology and a variety of other fields. These are all signs of the county's strength. This strength has been nurtured and spurred along by the Planning Commission's foresight and vision.

Their work is not done, however; they have set an ambitious 2009 agenda. This year they will address green building, recycling and issues related to Fort Belvoir in addition to their regular duties. The actions this group takes today will continue to shape and direct this county in the years to come.

Madam Speaker, in closing, I would like to thank and send appreciation to the Fairfax



County Planning Commission and their staff for their hard work and dedication to Fairfax County. Their untiring, dynamic efforts have made Fairfax County a wonderful place to live and raise a family. I call upon my colleagues to join me in commending and congratulating the Fairfax County Planning Commission on 70 years of excellence.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. TIM MURPHY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 8, 2008*

Mr. TIM MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, on rollcall no. 470, H. Res. 1098, Supporting the goals and ideals of the Year of the American Veteran, had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

#### HONORING THE FRATERNAL ORDER OF EAGLES AERIE #1801

#### HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 8, 2008*

Mr. SHUSTER. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I offer my congratulations to the members and leadership of the Fraternal Order of Eagles Aerie #1801 in Somerset, Pennsylvania, who will celebrate their 100th anniversary on July 30, 2008.

Originally founded in 1898 by a group of theatre owners, the Fraternal Order of Eagles was created to act as a social haven for the like-minded. As the Fraternal Order of Eagles spread throughout the United States, they sought, as they continue to do so today, to establish a fraternal system to encourage and provide assistance to members and their families through a system of mutual insurance which provided death benefits. In 1908, the citizens of Somerset organized the Fraternal Order of Eagles Aerie #1801. Over the past one hundred years Aerie #1801 has focused on achieving their original objective, to "make human life more desirable by lessening its ills and promoting peace, prosperity, gladness, and hope." They have truly succeeded in their quest.

Throughout its history, the Fraternal Order of Eagles has sought to leave a truly memorable past on the pages of history. Not only does the Eagles' historical participation consist of seven U.S. presidents, including Theodore Roosevelt, Franklin Roosevelt, Jimmy Carter and Ronald Reagan, but they have also been incredibly charitable. Across the United States the Eagles donate more than \$100 million every year to charities. Members of Aerie #1801 lift up their community as well as surrounding communities by raising funds for a multitude of local and national charities. These charities include the Golden Eagles Fund, Robert Hansen Diabetes Fund, and the Jimmy Durante Children's Fund. Through actively pursuing lifting up those around them, the Eagles Aerie #1801 has truly been an integral part of Somerset, Pennsylvania. The leadership and members of Aerie #1801 have continuously provided Somerset with examples of civic leadership, charitable giving, and improv-

ing the borough in ways great and small. The Eagles have made Somerset an immeasurably enhanced place to live, work, and raise families.

The Somerset Fraternal Order of Eagles has provided a trustworthy atmosphere which has worked to help a multitude of men, women, and children throughout its history. I would like to congratulate the members and leadership of Aerie #1801 and Eagles who have assembled from across the country to be in Somerset on this occasion. I look forward to celebrating the one hundredth anniversary of such a wonderful organization, as it has brought a greater appreciation to our area and has surely been an asset to the community.

#### COMMENDING LIEUTENANT ANDREW PATE FOR HIS SERVICE TO THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

#### HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 8, 2008*

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Lieutenant Andrew Pate for his service to the U.S. House of Representatives and the United States Coast Guard.

As some of you may know, Lieutenant Pate was detailed to the Coast Guard's House Liaison office in July of 2006, and I am proud to have had the opportunity to work closely with him over the past two years. My colleagues, staff, and I have valued his knowledge and understanding of the Coast Guard's operational missions, day-to-day challenges, and roles and responsibilities.

Lieutenant Andrew Leigh Pate is a native of Wesley Chapel, Florida. In the summer of 1998 he enrolled at the United States Coast Guard Academy, with summer duty assignments onboard Coast Guard cutters *Northland*, *Eagle* and *Drummond*. First elected as Treasurer of his Academy Class in 1998, Lieutenant Pate has served continuously as President of his Academy Class since the spring of 2000.

In May of 2002, Lieutenant Pate graduated from the Academy with a Bachelor's degree in Government. His first assignment was onboard the High Endurance Cutter USCGC *Gallatin* (WHEC 721) home ported in Charleston, South Carolina. While onboard *Gallatin*, Lieutenant Pate served in a variety of positions including Assistant Operations Officer, Combat Information Center Officer, and Maritime Law Enforcement Boarding Officer. His tour highlights include the interdiction and repatriation of over 570 Haitian migrants during Operations Able Manner and Able Sentry.

In June of 2004, Lieutenant Pate transferred to Fort Myers Beach, Florida as the fourth Commanding Officer of the 87-foot Coastal Patrol Boat USCGC *Marlin* (WPB 87304). From June 2004 to July 2006, *Marlin* successfully conducted over 250 law enforcement boardings in an operational area covering more than 108,000 square miles. These efforts resulted in the apprehension of 10 wanted fugitives, the voyage termination of 18 commercial fishing vessels for hazardous safety conditions and the interdiction and re-

patriation of over 150 Cuban migrants attempting to illegally enter the United States. Under Lieutenant Pate's command, *Marlin* safely evaded six major Hurricanes and conducted a total of 21 Search and Rescue cases saving the lives of 50 people.

Two years ago, Lieutenant Pate reported to the Hill as an Assistant House Liaison Officer for the Coast Guard. Since arriving in 2006, Lieutenant Pate has worked tirelessly to provide Members of Congress and their staff with timely, accurate, and detailed information needed to fulfill their duties. Through his careful planning and execution of dozens of Congressional Delegation trips and hundreds of briefings, Lieutenant Pate clearly articulated Coast Guard views in support of needed authorities and appropriations, working constructively with the Congress to ensure careful stewardship of resources.

On July 14, 2008, Lieutenant Pate will leave his post in the House Liaison Office and report to the Office of Senator ROGER WICKER (MS) for a one-year assignment as a Military Fellow.

I am proud to know and pay tribute to him in the United States Congress. On behalf of the Representatives and staff who have been fortunate enough to know and work with Andrew, I wish him, his wife Kristen, and their son Aidan, clear skies and following seas.

#### NISEI BASEBALL

#### HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 8, 2008*

Ms. MATSUI. Madam Speaker, I rise today in tribute of Nisei Pioneer Day and the past generations of Japanese American baseball players, coaches, and teams. For over a century, Japanese American baseball has been a strong bond that brought communities and cultures together while also teaching good sportsmanship. As the Japanese American community and baseball fans gather to celebrate the Nisei Pioneer Day Program in Sacramento, I ask that all my colleagues join me in honoring Nisei baseball.

Baseball has been an important sport in the Japanese community since it was first introduced in Japan in 1872 by American school teacher Horace Wilson. By the turn of the century baseball had become the Nation's most popular sport and in 1905 Japan's national champion Waseda University team toured the United States competing against various American colleges. Unfortunately, during this same time, anti-Japanese movements were on the rise in the United States. During this difficult time, Nisei baseball was able to bring Japanese Americans into the Nation's mainstream.

The 1920s and 1930s are often referred to as the "Golden Age" of Japanese American baseball. During this time many Japanese American communities across the West Coast were organizing teams and leagues. This brought the Japanese American community together in the wake of increasing anti-Japanese legislation. While laws such as the Immigration Act of 1924 were effectively ending Japanese immigration into the United States, baseball was providing a valuable bridge between the East and West Coast cultures for Issei and



Nisei here in the United States. It continued to play an important role in defining and developing a cultural identity throughout the 1930s.

After the bombing of Pearl Harbor and President Roosevelt's Executive Order initiating the removal and incarceration of Japanese Americans, the tradition of baseball resonated within these communities. Daily baseball games not only served as a distraction from the monotony of the internment camps, but it also provided them with a sense of normalcy and community. Today we celebrate the historical impact Nisei baseball has had not only on the Japanese American community in the United States, but across our Nation as a whole. It provided a sense of community during one of the darkest periods of our Nation's history.

In recent years Japanese ballplayers have helped transform the game of baseball at the highest levels. Japanese players competing at the major league level, such as Ichiro Suzuki, Hideki Matsui and Hideo Nomo, have been instrumental in attracting new fans to the sport. The success of these major leaguers and the strides made by past Nisei and Issei ballplayers have led to a rich and rooted history that can be celebrated for generations to come.

I am honored to pay tribute to a century of Japanese American baseball and the enduring effect it has had on the Japanese American community. On behalf of the people of Sacramento and the Fifth Congressional District of California, I ask all my colleagues to join me in commemorating the past and present Japanese American baseball pioneers and their lasting legacy on our country.

HONORING SANDRA M. BODIN

**HON. LOIS CAPPS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 8, 2008*

Mrs. CAPPS. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor Sandra M. Bodin, who just completed her services as President of the American Nephrology Nurses' Association, ANNA, for her dedication and contributions to nephrology nursing and kidney patients across the country.

ANNA is one of the largest and most prestigious nursing associations in America. The organization is the recognized leader in nephrology nursing practice, education, research, and advocacy. ANNA's members are registered nurses and health care professionals at all levels of practice. They care for patients of all ages who are experiencing, or are at risk for, kidney disease. The organization's mission is to advance nephrology nursing practice and positively influence outcomes for patients with kidney or other disease processes requiring replacement therapies through advocacy, scholarship, and excellence.

As an active member of ANNA, Sandra has served as President, Vice President, and as a member of the Board of Directors. Also, she received the Ron Brady Memorial Award for Excellence in Volunteer Leadership from ANNA in 2002.

As ANNA's president Sandra has inspired nephrology nurses to reach the highest levels of practice and patient care. She is a visionary leader who has implemented a broad range of

initiatives that will continue to improve care for patients whose lives depend on dialysis and other kidney replacement treatments.

Professionally, Sandra graduated with a Bachelor of Arts and a Master of Arts in Nursing from the College of Scholastica in Duluth, Minnesota. She became a Registered Nurse in 1977 and a Certified Nephrology Nurse in 1992. Sandra currently is the lead Clinical Informatics Analyst and Application Coordinator at the SMDC Health System in Duluth, Minnesota. Sandra has also worked at the Miller-Dawn Medical Center and St. Mary's Hospital, both in Duluth.

I honor her efforts to promote the care of those suffering from kidney disease. I recognize her achievements as a nurse, patient advocate, and healthcare leader. I commend Sandra on her service to the American Nephrology Nurses' Association and our country.

Please join me in commending Sandra M. Bodin for her years of vision, leadership, and commitment.

#### TRIBUTE TO THE MISSOURI NATIONAL GUARD

**HON. IKE SKELTON**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 8, 2008*

Mr. SKELTON. Madam Speaker, let me take this means to recognize the brave men and women of the Missouri National Guard, for their commitment to providing flood relief.

The Missouri National Guard Citizen-Soldiers and Airmen have been mobilized by Missouri government leaders to assist in the Missouri emergency flood response. The members have been mobilized in the communities of Clarksville, Hannibal, Canton, West Quincy, LaGrange, Winfield, Alexandria, St. Charles City, and St. Charles County. Those supporting the flood response are assisting in missions that include sandbagging operations, levee monitoring, and manning traffic control points. Since the mobilization of forces, more than 1,000 Guard members have responded to the call to duty. With force rotations, there are currently around 700 members on active duty.

Personnel have come from across the state to aid Missouri towns during this emergency. These units include the 7th Civil Support Team from Fort Leonard Wood; the 135th Military History Detachment from Jefferson City; the 835th Combat Support Sustainment Battalion from Jefferson City; 735th Quartermaster Company with detachments in DeSoto, Jefferson City, Rolla, Cape Girardeau and Jefferson Barracks; the 1138th Transportation Company from Jefferson Barracks; the 1035th Maintenance Company from Jefferson Barracks; 3175th Chemical Company from St. Peters; the 1438th Engineer Company from Macon and Kirksville; the 220th Engineer Company from Festus; the 880th Haul Team from Perryville; the 1137th Military Police Company from Kennett, Jackson and Doniphan; the 1138th Military Police Company from West Plains and Springfield; the 1175th Military Police Company from St. Clair and St. Louis; 1140th Engineer Battalion from Cape Girardeau; the 205th Military Police Battalion from Poplar Bluff; the 203rd Engineer Battalion from Joplin; the 131st Fighter Wing from St.

Louis; the 1138th Engineer Company (Sapper) in Farmington; and the 70th Troop Command from Jefferson Barracks.

I know the Members of the House will join me in recognizing the outstanding dedication of the Missouri National Guard, and in wishing them luck throughout this emergency operation.

#### INTRODUCTION OF THE NATIONAL GUARD TECHNICIAN RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION ACT

**HON. JOE COURTNEY**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 8, 2008*

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, I am proud to introduce legislation today that will restore fairness for our military technicians, who work every day in Connecticut and across the Nation to support our National Guard.

If the National Guard serves as the backbone of our military, then our military technicians serve as the backbone of our National Guard. They play a critical role in ensuring that our National Guard is ready to respond and deploy in support of military operations abroad by supporting the training, equipment repair and restoration, logistics and other critical functions.

Military technicians are known as "dual-status" employees, through which they must retain membership in the Air or Army National Guard in their State in order to maintain full-time employment as a technician. Dual-status military technicians are subject to the restrictions of the Technician Act of 1969, 32 USC 709, and other provisions of the law under which they are specifically prohibited from receiving certain benefits and rights available to them as members of the National Guard, such as reenlistment bonuses and student loan repayment assistance. In addition, if a member of the National Guard becomes a technician within 6 months of receiving an enlistment or reenlistment bonus, the Department of Defense can, and often does, require them to pay back those bonuses.

The law also fails to fairly compensate technicians for the increased overtime hours that technicians must work to fulfill their mission by providing technicians compensatory time, rather than monetary compensation, in return for overtime work. Many technicians cannot use the compensatory time without impacting time-sensitive military work schedules and, with the military's current "use it or lose it" policy under which such time is lost if unused within 21 pay cycles, many technicians face the prospect of losing the time off they have earned.

Last summer, I had the chance to visit the 1109th Aviation Classification and Repair Depot, AVCRAD, in Groton and see first hand the work they were doing to support of our National Guard. There, nearly 300 military technicians provide maintenance and logistics for aircraft and equipment for 14 States across the northeast and supports Connecticut's fleet of Black Hawk helicopters. During my visit, the leadership of the unit described how busy the facility has been over the past several years. They've literally been burning the midnight oil in trying to keep up with the demand of keeping equipment repaired and ready to deploy. It's an incredible operation, and one that is



just so important to our military serving in harm's way.

Just recently, about 150 members of the AVCRAD—many of them military technicians—deployed just last week in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Yet, as these technicians deploy abroad side by side with their fellow guardsmen, they are not treated equally because of their full time employment as a military technician. At a time when we rely on military technicians more than ever to ensure that our Armed Forces are ready to serve, I strongly believe that we must do more to support, recruit and retain both our skilled military technicians and dedicated members of the National Guard. We must update outdated 30-year-old laws to ensure that they adequately reflect the challenges and needs of today's military technician.

The bill I am introducing today, the National Guard Technician Recruitment and Retention Act, would restore fairness for our National Guard technicians. The bill ensures that no military technician is denied the opportunity to receive an enlistment or reenlistment bonus for their service in the National Guard, that they are given the opportunity to participate in a student loan repayment program and are not required to repay bonuses they receive for their service in the National Guard if they accept a position as a military technician. And, the bill will repeal the overtime prohibition against overtime pay for National Guard technicians and instead provide for flexibility in overtime compensation by allowing military technicians to choose between compensatory time or overtime pay at one and a half times their basic rate of pay—whatever suits their individual situation and needs.

Madam Speaker, if a military technician can train, serve and deploy as a member of the National Guard, I do not think it is too much for them to ask to keep the benefits they deserve for their service in the National Guard. With all we ask of them today, I simply disagree with the notion that a member of the National Guard has to give up the benefits they are entitled to because they chose to serve their Nation as a military technician. Military technicians are the ones that keep the National Guard ready to serve—and it is time that we serve them.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this important legislation.

#### TRIBUTE TO COURTNEY RAYLE

#### HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 8, 2008*

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, today I rise to offer my congratulations to Courtney Rayle, the winner of the Masters Division of the 67th Greater Washington Soap Box Derby held in our Nation's Capital on June 22.

I am very pleased that Miss Rayle, who is a resident of Mechanicsville, Maryland and my constituent, has now earned the right to compete in the 71st Annual All-American Soap Box Derby national championship on July 26 in Akron, Ohio. Courtney has worked tirelessly to earn such a noteworthy win; due to her hard work, the victory marks the seventh time someone from the Rayle family has won the Greater Washington Soap Box race. This year

will be the 19th time a member of the Rayle family will race in Akron. Courtney joins Jimmy Rayle Sr., Billy Rayle, Jimmy Rayle Jr., and Jeff Rayle in a long tradition of excellence in this sport. As Courtney now looks to compete for the national soap box title, I, along with the people of Maryland, wish her the best of luck.

The origin of soap box derby racing dates back to 1934 when a photographer for the Dayton Daily News in Ohio, Myron E. Scott, saw boys racing engineless cars down a hill, inspiring him to organize a race and award the winner with a "loving cup." The venue was later moved to Akron—the site of today's national derby championship—on account of the numerous hills. With the hard work of countless civic organizations, a permanent track site for the youth racing classic was created in Akron with the assistance of the Works Progress Administration (WPA).

The All-American Soap Box Derby is the second-oldest racing event in the Nation—second only to the Indianapolis 500. This event has been called the greatest amateur racing competition in the world, and it is an excellent opportunity for contestants from all around the country to learn building skills while gaining a real sense of accomplishment. Congratulations to all of this year's competitors, and congratulations once again to Miss Courtney Rayle.

#### HONORS THE SOCIETY OF ST. TROFIMENA AS THEY CELEBRATE THEIR 100TH ANNIVERSARY

#### HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 8, 2008*

Ms. DELAURO. Madam Speaker, it is my great pleasure to rise today to join my neighborhood, Wooster Square in New Haven, Connecticut, and the Italian-American community in celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Society of St. Trofimenia. Founded in a home on Wooster Street in December of 1908, 100 years later, the Society of St. Trofimenia continues to play an integral role in the lives of many of the families of Wooster Square.

Immigrating to the United States in 2004, a group of Minoresi, families from the town of Minori, Italy, came to America in search of work and made New Haven their home. In an effort to provide mutual aid and comfort to each other they decided to form a fraternal group—the Society of St. Trofimenia, Virgine & Martine. According to its original by-laws, its primary purpose was to unite all descendants of the town of Minori and to increase and spread the devotion of St. Trofimenia. As a tribute, Antonio Esposito commissioned and donated to the society a statue of St. Trofimenia that was made in Italy and shipped to New Haven. This statue has been used in all of the festivals honoring her and has been paraded through the streets of Wooster Square.

The society flourished for more than 50 years before membership began to wane, however, in 1980 a group of descendants, spearheaded by Frances D'Amato Crisci and her brother Anthony D'Amato met to reorganize. In the years since its inception, members of the Society of St. Trofimenia assumed a critical responsibility—maintaining the Italian her-

itage that thousands of Greater New Haven residents share. Each year, the Society of St. Trofimenia keeps our community spirit alive honoring St. Trofimenia on her feast day of July 13 and at a mass in memory of her deceased members in November. It is through efforts such as these that we renew our history and help pass it along.

Forged through the bonds of family, the members of the Society of St. Trofimenia continue to be active in the community—enriching our neighborhood and ensuring that our rich history is not forgotten by new generations. The original mission of the society is still apparent today as we gather to celebrate their centennial anniversary. It is with great pride that I stand today to extend my deepest thanks and warmest congratulations to the members of the Society of St. Trofimenia on their 100th anniversary.

#### PAYING TRIBUTE TO ROBERT JAMES GARLOW

#### HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 8, 2008*

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, it is my distinct pleasure to rise today to honor Mr. Robert James Garlow by entering his name in the Congressional Record, the official record of the proceedings and debates of the United States Congress since 1873. Today, I honor Mr. Garlow for his extensive service to both our country and community.

Mr. Garlow joined the U.S. Air Force on October 19, 1966. He graduated Officer's Training School in 1967 and earned his Master's in Engineering Facilities in 1974. Mr. Garlow's service as an engineer in the Air Force took him and his wife Susan around the globe, with assignments in Texas, New Mexico, Japan, North Dakota, Ohio, Germany, Panama City, and Spain before his arrival at Nellis Air Force Base in Las Vegas, Nevada in July of 1983. Since that time, Robert and Susan have called Boulder City, Nevada home. During this time, Mr. Garlow received his Nevada registration as a Professional Civil Engineer.

In 1986, Robert retired from the Air Force as a Civil Engineer Officer with the rank of Major after 20 years of service. Since his retirement from the military, Robert has worked in the Las Vegas Valley as a Director of Facilities for numerous companies and most recently retired from the City of North Las Vegas where he worked as a Senior Project Manager.

Mr. Garlow is a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW), Military Order of the Cootie (MOC), Vietnam Veterans of America, and Scottish American Military Society (SAMS). He has served as Chairman of the Nevada Veterans Assistance League and the Veterans Cemetery Volunteer Group. Mr. Garlow volunteers a great deal of his time to these two organizations and has been an advocate and supporter to our veterans in Southern Nevada.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor Mr. Robert James Garlow for his most recent retirement, his continued volunteerism in the community, and wish him the best in his future endeavors.



**MEDICARE IMPROVEMENTS FOR  
PATIENTS AND PROVIDERS ACT  
OF 2008**

SPEECH OF

**HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 24, 2008*

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 6331, the Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act will delay cuts in physician payments under Medicare until next year. I hope that this is the last temporary delay and next year we will implement a permanent fix to this problem. It's important to Medicare patients and physicians that there is a continuity of payments so physicians can continue to treat Medicare patients and Medicare patients do not lose access to the physician most familiar with their medical needs.

When we implement a permanent fix to the Medicare physician payment cuts, I hope to address the issue of the Medicare physician geographic payment discrepancy that is faced by many areas in California and across the country. One of these areas is Sonoma County, in my District. This inconsistency has led to doctor's reimbursements being based upon geographic location and not the true cost of providing services. Because of this discrepancy, doctors in Sonoma County receive a lower payment for the same services than doctors in next door Marin County and this discrepancy is causing doctors to leave Sonoma County. Congress must act to fix this discrepancy and ensure that physicians with Medicare patients can continue to afford to see Medicare patients regardless of where a practice is located.

I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 6331, Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act and look forward to working together to provide a permanent solution to the Medicare physician payment issues so that our Nation's seniors receive the best possible care from the physician who knows the patient the best.

IN HONOR OF DR. J. FREDERICK  
GRASSLE

**HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 8, 2008*

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. J. Frederick Grassle on his retirement from the Institute of Marine and Coastal Sciences at Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey. Dr. Grassle served as director of the Institute for 19 years.

Under Dr. Grassle's direction, the Institute gained a national and international reputation for excellence in marine and coastal research, education and service.

Dr. Grassle's creativity and vision led to establishment of the world's first undersea observatory, commonly known as LEO-15. This achievement enabled development of the Nation's Integrated Ocean Observing System that now supports critical national missions associated with saving lives at sea, enhancing homeland security, and forecasting effects of natural disasters.

Dr. Grassle is known for his innovative thinking and many scientific achievements, which are highlighted by his pioneering work on the biology of hydrothermal vents, biodiversity, and effects of waste disposal in deep sea systems. He devoted his time and effort to ensure that the results of science were transferred in a timely manner to environmental managers and policymakers. His work on waste disposal culminated into a national policy change based on his scientific findings and testimony before Congress.

Serving the state of New Jersey, Dr. Grassle advanced novel approaches for disposal and management of contaminated sediments that helped to preserve the region's port industry and coastal-based economy. He also fostered new approaches to science education that have enriched the critical thinking skills of youth in New Jersey and throughout the Nation.

Madam Speaker, I sincerely hope that my colleagues will join me in celebrating the service of Dr. J. Frederick Grassle, a man whose deep commitment to excellence in marine and coastal research, education for all ages, and services to resource managers have enabled New Jersey to be a national and international leader in these fields.

**MEDICARE IMPROVEMENTS FOR  
PATIENTS AND PROVIDERS ACT  
OF 2008**

SPEECH OF

**HON. PATRICK J. KENNEDY**

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 24, 2008*

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 6331, the Medicare Improvement for Patients and Providers Act. This important bill includes mental health parity for Medicare beneficiaries. Currently, there is a discriminatory 50-percent copayment requirement for mental health services, while a 20-percent copayment exists for physical health care services under Medicare.

As the lead sponsor of H.R. 1424, the Paul Wellstone Mental Health and Addiction Equity Act, I am fighting to enact mental health parity for individuals who receive their insurance in the private sector. Federal employees, including Members of Congress, have had equal access to mental health and addiction services since 2001 with little or no cost increase. It's time for the private sector and Medicare to join in this effort to protect the health of all Americans, regardless of age or diagnosis.

In my home State of Rhode Island, I spend countless hours in senior centers and high-rises talking to my constituents, and it's clear that there is an epidemic of undiagnosed and untreated mental illness among older Americans. In fact, as many as one-quarter of seniors have significant clinical depression. But the one thing we must remember is that depression does not have to be a byproduct of aging—it isn't "normal" to get depressed as you get older. Allowing mental illness to go untreated in our seniors is not only unethical, but it increases health care costs, especially for those seniors with depression who are unable to manage their chronic illnesses.

Tragically, only 3 percent of older adults with mental illness ever seek mental health

treatment. Often, this is due to stigma. Stigma that is reinforced by our reimbursement structure that favors the treatment of our physical health over our mental health. H.R. 6331 ends this stigma by phasing in a 20-percent copayment for Medicare mental health services over 6 years. By ending arbitrary and discriminatory financial limits and making treatment more affordable, we can ensure that all seniors have access to mental health services. I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 6331.

**HONORING FORMER VICE MAYOR  
MICKEY NOVACK OF SURFSIDE  
ON HER 90TH BIRTHDAY**

**HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 8, 2008*

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor one of South Florida's most outstanding citizens, the Honorable Mickey Novack, who recently turned 90. In the aftermath of the Second World War, former Surfside vice mayor Novack left London, where she was born, and came to this country. Having arrived in New York, she later moved to Surfside, Florida, where she established herself as an exemplary citizen both in her public and family life.

Former vice mayor Novack has contributed to many different types of organizations in her community, in several different capacities. She has consistently played a proactive role in Surfside and was both the vice mayor and the commissioner of the city's government. She has also utilized her financial expertise in her positions of president of the Surfside Taxpayers Association and as the treasurer of numerous other organizations. These range from the PTA to Women in Government Service. Professional life aside, she has been the cornerstone of a family dedicated to public service, education and the improvement of their community.

The fervor and ardor with which former vice mayor Novack devoted herself to the community and her family in conjunction with her life achievements are truly inspirational. I am proud to represent her as her Congresswoman and delighted to share with you her achievements.

HONORING MR. DICK DEITZ

**HON. JOHN SHIMKUS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 8, 2008*

Mr. SHIMKUS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and honor Mr. Dick Deitz of McLeansboro, Illinois.

Mr. Deitz is to be inducted into the 2008 National High School Hall of Fame, the highest honor that an individual associated with high school sports can receive. This Hall of Fame honors athletes, coaches, officials, and administrators for their extraordinary achievements in high school sports.

Mr. Deitz has been working as a football, basketball, and baseball official in Illinois since 1958 and has been the state's rules interpreter in basketball and baseball since 1976.



He is the head official for the Illinois High School Association (IHSA) football playoffs, and he is an IHSA clinician in both football and basketball.

Mr. Deitz officiated state tournaments in boys basketball and state finals in football; making him one of a select few in the State to work finals in both major sports. He was inducted into the Illinois Basketball Coaches Association Hall of Fame in 1998, and since 1993, he has been mayor of McLeansboro, Illinois.

I extend my congratulations to Dick Deitz and his family for his impressive accomplishments and his induction into the National High School Hall of Fame.

#### ALTERNATIVE MINIMUM TAX

#### HON. TIM MAHONEY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 8, 2008*

Mr. MAHONEY of Florida. Madam Speaker, as I stated for the record on June 26, 2008, I missed votes on June 25, 2008, due to the funeral of my friend, Mason Smoak.

One of the votes I missed was a vote on the Alternative Minimum Tax (AMT). I applaud our leadership for its work to ensure that the AMT does not hit middle- and working-class families in a way that would not increase our national debt. I have voted against the AMT in the past—and, had I been able to vote on June 25, 2008, I would have voted “no”—because changing the taxation on carried interest sends the wrong message that Congress values money more than ingenuity, with the unintended consequences potentially being a constriction of private capital to America's small businesses. It is my hope that Congress will continue to address this vital issue responsibly and in a bipartisan manner.

#### VETERANS HEALTH SCHOLARSHIP ACT OF 2008

#### HON. STEVE BUYER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 8, 2008*

Mr. BUYER. Madam Speaker, today I am introducing the Veterans Health Scholarship Act of 2008. This legislation would extend the authority of the Department of Veterans Affairs, VA, to reinstate the Health Professional Scholarship Program and give priority to veterans in awarding these scholarships.

VA is known for its high quality health care. However, the supply of highly trained medical personnel is not growing as fast as the demand, and VA struggles to recruit highly trained health care professionals critical to providing veterans the care and services they need.

The Health Professional Scholarship Program was originally established to improve recruitment and retention and help reduce the national nursing shortage. VA lost an important tool to meet their current and anticipated staffing needs when the program expired in 1998 and was not reinstated. As concerns over recruitment and retention of health care professionals increase, it is especially impor-

tant that we enhance opportunities to educate a new generation of VA health care providers. Reinstating the authorization for this program will provide VA another tool to attract qualified health professionals to care for our nation's veterans.

Even as VA is experiencing recruiting difficulties, many servicemembers from Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom are trained combat medics responsible for providing frontline trauma care on the battlefield. When they come home, we can provide the opportunity for these new veterans to continue their medical education, and use their knowledge and experience to provide needed services to their fellow veterans.

Madam Speaker, the quality of health care available to our veterans is dependent on the ability of VA to recruit and retain qualified health care personnel. I hope my colleagues on both sides of the aisle will join me in this effort to build a new generation of health care professionals and cosponsor the Veterans Health Scholarship Act of 2008.

#### RECOGNIZING EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT, DISASTER RECOVERY AND RELIEF EFFORTS IN WAYNE COUNTY

#### HON. MIKE PENCE

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 8, 2008*

Mr. PENCE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and recognize the extraordinary contributions of emergency management, disaster response, and recovery personnel as well as elected officials and community leaders in my district which was devastated by the recent severe weather in Indiana.

I wish particularly to honor the Board of Commissioners, County Council, and all the other outstanding individuals in Wayne County who rose to the occasion during these difficult times. This area suffered greatly from severe storms and weather, creating a catastrophe of nature that inflicted injuries, destroyed property, and displaced many of our citizens. In response, these officials went above and beyond the call of duty, showing great poise while saving many lives and serving the people of their communities.

Madam Speaker, I commend these fine men and women for their tremendous dedication to the Hoosier families, businesses, farmers and communities that they serve. As Hoosiers continue to recover from Mother Nature's fury, I feel confident that the people of Wayne County will be well served by these officials.

#### PAYING TRIBUTE TO MARY EATON

#### HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 8, 2008*

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, it is my distinct pleasure to rise today to honor my friend Mary Eaton by entering her name in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, the official record of the proceedings and debates of the United States Congress since 1873. Today, I pay tribute to Mary Eaton of Boulder City, who celebrated her 100th birthday on April 14, 2008.

Mary moved to Boulder City with her husband, Bruce Eaton, on July 4, 1932, where Bruce worked on the Hoover Dam project. Mary cared for their children and stayed home until Bruce enlisted in the Army in 1942. Mary stayed in Boulder City and began working as a home economics teacher, and continued to teach middle school and high school for 13 years. She eventually became the first president of the classroom teachers, the union at the time, and also participated in many groups, such as Volunteers of America, Eastern Star, Rainbow Girls. She was a charter member of Grace Community Church.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor Mary Eaton for her achievements and dedication to the Boulder City community. I applaud her efforts. I wish her a happy centennial and all the best in her future endeavors.

#### REGARDING H.R. 6381, THE MEDICAL DEVICE SAFETY ACT OF 2008

#### HON. BRUCE L. BRALEY

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 8, 2008*

Mr. BRALEY of Iowa. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 6381, the Medical Device Safety Act of 2008. I am proud to be an original cosponsor of this legislation, which will address the Supreme Court's flawed decision in *Riegel v. Medtronic* that completely ignored Congressional intent regarding the ability of injured patients to hold medical device manufacturers accountable for their injuries. This bill will restore Congress's original intent to allow injured patients to seek recourse for their injuries suffered at the hands of negligent device manufacturers.

American patients need the Medical Device Safety Act of 2008 to ensure that they have the ability to hold negligent device manufacturers accountable for injuries caused by unsafe products. It also would prevent these manufacturers from receiving total immunity from any claims simply by virtue of receiving a Food and Drug Administration device approval.

It is important for Congress to quickly make its intent clear, as the Supreme Court will likely take up a parallel issue this fall regarding accountability for pharmaceutical manufacturers. Earlier this year, I was proud to participate in a hearing in the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform which looked deeper into this issue. Witness testimony made it clear that when we allow the FDA to have the final say on device safety, patient safety is compromised. Strong State laws are critical to maintaining accountability for device manufacturers, and allowing the FDA to preempt these State laws is a surefire way to lead to negligence and the production of unsafe products.

The civil justice system and the Federal regulatory system were always meant to complement each other. Both are necessary to adequately protect Americans. The FDA simply cannot do it alone. The agency is understaffed and underfunded, and I support additional funding to help this critical agency. However, allowing the buck to stop solely with the FDA on issues of life and death is simply contradictory to our system of checks and balances. This is just one more reason that it is



vital that Congress pass the Medical Device Safety Act of 2008 to restore the balance between the civil justice system and the Federal regulatory system that Congress intended when it passed the Medical Device Amendments of 1976.

HONORING GENERAL T. MICHAEL  
"BUZZ" MOSELEY'S CAREER OF  
PUBLIC SERVICE

**HON. SAM JOHNSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 8, 2008*

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to General T. Michael "Buzz" Moseley, 18th Chief of Staff of the U.S. Air Force, an exemplary patriot and extraordinary leader, who, on July 9, 2008, completed 37 years of distinguished service to our Nation.

General Moseley began his accomplished career at Texas A&M and Webb AFB, where he earned his wings in 1973. He proceeded to a series of demanding assignments as flight instructor, test pilot and mission commander. His peerless operational skills were honed by the most prestigious positions, to include command at every level—most notably the Air Force Fighter Weapons School, the 9th Air Force, and the U.S. Central Command Air Forces. General Moseley led airmen in peace, crisis, and war—from Operation Southern Watch, through the harrowing days in the wake of September 11, 2001, to engaging the Taliban in Operation Enduring Freedom and the destruction of Saddam Hussein's war machine in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

The breadth of General Moseley's assignments and the professionalism with which he has carried them out, reflect a keen intellect and unrivaled grasp of national security policies and air power's role in implementing them. Equally impressive, has been General Moseley's staunch, consistent advocacy of inter-Service and international cooperation as the most effective way of assuring allies, dissuading and deterring adversaries, and defeating implacable foes.

A brilliant speaker with a sharp wit and endearing style, General Moseley has frequently testified before the Congress on a wide variety of issues critical to the Air Force's—and the Nation's—readiness to face an uncertain future. However controversial the topic or pointed the questioning, he has always been a most poised, eloquent proponent of balancing current exigencies with future requirements. His focus has remained unwavering: assure that USAF remains America's asymmetric advantage—our Nation's multidimensional, global maneuver force—the force of first and last resort.

As the 18th Chief of Staff and a member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff from September 2005 to August 2008, General Moseley has been a trusted advisor on all aspects of airpower and its key role in promoting and defending America's interests at home and abroad. His 37 years of distinguished service epitomize bold leadership, strategic vision, intellectual flexibility, innovation, honor, integrity, dignity and selfless devotion.

His exceptional grasp of war-fighters' needs, born of his own combatant experience, has

enabled the Air Force to provide unprecedented Global Reach, Global Vigilance and Global Power for both traditional and non-traditional missions. Under his leadership, the Air Force spread its wings over America's cities, delivered relief to victims of tsunamis and hurricanes, expanded international ties to reassure allies and deter enemies—all while flying and fighting as an indispensable part of the Joint force in Iraq, Afghanistan and other theaters of the Global War on Terror.

His commitment to his Airmen has been peerless. In a constrained fiscal environment—and with lives in the balance—General Moseley's uncommon courage, expertise and foresight have forged a set of transformational initiatives designed to spark an intellectual renaissance while recapitalizing an aging air fleet, worn down by 18 years of continuous combat. He has sought to provide his Airmen with the quality of life they deserve, while seeing to their training, education and leadership. He has refocused the Service on a single core mission: bolstering warrior ethos and fostering joint and combined synergies.

He has worked tirelessly to reinvigorate the innovation, flexibility, and creative, strategic thinking that have been Airmen's hallmarks since the dawn of aviation. In the context of this conceptual, organizational and technological transformation, General Moseley has redefined the Air Force for the 21st Century, ensuring that America's guardians will continue to fly, fight and win in both today's battles and in tomorrow's crucibles.

While many distinguished awards and decorations adorn his uniform—from his own grateful Nation as well as from such staunch allies as Britain, France, Korea, Brazil, Singapore, and the UAE—what stands out most and what we honor him for today is his unflinching commitment to the cause of freedom and justice. General T. Michael "Buzz" Moseley has earned the deepest respect from all whom he has served during his illustrious career—most notably this Congress and a grateful Nation.

PROMINENT CARIBBEAN AMERICANS  
RECOGNIZED DURING CARIBBEAN  
AMERICAN HERITAGE  
MONTH

**HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 8, 2008*

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the profiles of four prominent members of the Caribbean Diaspora during Caribbean-American Heritage Month that were featured in a special section of *CaribNews*, a New York based publication that serves as the voice of the Caribbean Diaspora community.

Jamaican American, Beryl Levi, is the President of a successful frozen food company. Mrs. Levi and her husband started the company with high hopes and countless well-wishers. Today, Tower Isle Frozen Foods is considered "the pioneer Jamaican food processing company in the U.S."

Rosemonde Pierre-Louis is a Haitian American and the Deputy Borough President of Manhattan. Ms. Pierre-Louis completed her undergraduate studies at Tufts University in Massachusetts and obtained her law degree from Case Western University School of Law.

Justice Sylvia Hinds-Radix sits on the Supreme Court of New York and is the first Barbados national to serve in that capacity. Justice Hinds-Radix has been an advocate for the poor since the beginning of her career. She credits her family for her success and for her motivation to be a voice to the voiceless in her community.

Michael Flanigan is the Community Relations Director for Citi Bank in the Brooklyn and Staten Island region and serves on several boards of directors. Mr. Flanigan started his education at Jamaica College and went on to earn a masters in finance and marketing from New York University. Mr. Flanigan believes that "hard times shouldn't dissuade us from our goals" and wants to help others achieve their goals by becoming more involved in philanthropy.

Many more Caribbean Americans have contributed to the American fabric than those that were mentioned today. I would like us as a nation to recognize the struggles and victories of the Caribbean community and how important their work is to the history and continued triumph of America. I would like to take this opportunity during Caribbean-American Heritage Month to celebrate the contributions of all Caribbean Americans to our Nation.

IN RECOGNITION OF SYRACUSE  
BROADCASTER MIKE PRICE

**HON. JAMES T. WALSH**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 8, 2008*

Mr. WALSH of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mike Price, a Syracuse broadcasting legend, as he retires after 46 years at NewsChannel 9 WSYR.

Mike began his career with Channel 9, then WIXT-TV, on September 2, 1962 just before the station went on air for the very first time. He quickly grew to earn a reputation for being an honest and good natured broadcaster who treated all people with deep respect. Mike rose to fame through his portrayal of the character "Baron Daemon," a vampire that hosted late night horror shows. His character became so popular that the station added a late afternoon show titled "Barron and his Buddies." Additionally, Mike recorded a popular single called "The Transylvania Twist," which is played every Halloween. For 25 years, Mike was the anchor of "Good News" on NewsChannel 9, which recognized community happenings and school groups across the Syracuse area. Mike's hard work and dedication to NewsChannel 9 helped the station to reach the number one spot in local ratings.

Mike Price valiantly served his country for 30 years as a Chief Petty Officer in the U.S. Coast Guard Reserve, serving in the Persian Gulf War in 1991. He went on to produce a documentary about his experiences during this time that received several awards. Mike is a Syracuse native, attending Onondaga Valley Academy and Syracuse University. Additionally, he is the recipient of the Syracuse Press Club's Career Achievement Award. After undergoing open-heart surgery in 2001 and sharing his recovery with viewers, Mike has been an inspiration and a valuable resource to many who undergo the same treatment.

On behalf of the people of the 25th District of New York, I congratulate Mike on a wonderful career and wish him the best as he retires.



I thank him for his many decades of serving the Syracuse community.

HONORING WASHINGTON POST EXECUTIVE EDITOR LEONARD DOWNIE JR.

### HON. TOM DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 8, 2008*

Mr. DAVIS of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Leonard Downie Jr. for 17 years of service and dedication as the executive editor for The Washington Post. Leonard is widely recognized as one of the great editors of our time.

Mr. Downie began his career for The Washington Post as a summer intern in 1964. He soon established himself as a well-known local investigative reporter in Washington, specializing in crime, courts, housing and urban affairs. To honor his superior reporting, Mr. Downie received two Washington-Baltimore Newspaper Guild Front Page awards, The American Bar Association Gavel Award for legal reporting, and the John Hancock Award for excellent business and financial writing.

Mr. Downie then worked on the Metropolitan staff for 15 years, where he earned the title of deputy metropolitan editor. In 1979, he was named London correspondent. 3 years later, he returned to Washington as national editor, and, in 1984, became the managing editor and director of The Los Angeles Times-Washington Post News Service.

On September 1, 1991, after 7 years as managing editor, Mr. Downie was named executive editor of the Washington Post. Under his guidance, the Post developed into a major online force. His immense talent for investigative journalism was also apparent as the Post won numerous prizes for high-profile expositions, including the secret CIA prisons in Eastern European and the Watergate Scandal. His excellent leadership was rewarded; the post won 25 Pulitzer Prizes under his tenure. Mr. Downie announced his last day at The Washington Post will be on September 9, 2008. Leonard, always modest, summed up his management philosophy in one sentence: "You hire people smarter and more talented than you and enable them to do their best work."

Madam Speaker, in closing, I would like to thank Mr. Downie for molding The Washington Post into a dominant news outlet, for his contributions to journalism, and for doing his part to keep our world honest. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating him on his many successes and in wishing him the best of luck in all future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION GROUP OF ARROW ROCK, MISSOURI

### HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 8, 2008*

Mr. SKELTON. Madam Speaker, let me take this opportunity to congratulate the historic preservation group of Arrow Rock, Mis-

souri. In April 2008, Arrow Rock was designated as a Preserve America Community.

Arrow Rock is one of 600 nationwide sites that have earned the designation of being a Preserve America Community. This Federal designation helps in the historic preservation work for communities throughout the United States. Preserve America is focused on providing financial support systems for the non-physical work done in historic preservation communities. The Arrow Rock community will now be able to apply for Federal grants, awards, and other help in research, planning, and training efforts to help in the preservation of their village. First Lady Laura Bush said, in a written statement, "Preserve America Communities demonstrate that they are committed to preserving America's heritage while ensuring a future filled with opportunities for learning and enjoyment."

I am certain that the Members of the House will join me in congratulating the historic preservation group of Arrow Rock for their accomplishments and in wishing them luck in all their future endeavors.

INTRODUCTION OF H.R. 6431, DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS ELECTRONIC REPORTING ACT

### HON. STEVE BUYER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 8, 2008*

Mr. BUYER. Madam Speaker, today I am introducing the Department of Veterans Affairs, VA, Electronic Reporting Act. This legislation would require VA to submit to Congress reports required by law in an electronic form.

VA is required to submit numerous reports to Congress on issues ranging from assistance provided to homeless veterans to the establishment of new cemeteries. This fiscal year we will receive over forty reports mandated in title 38, United States Code.

Requiring VA to submit these reports electronically would be more efficient and reduce paper waste. It would also maximize the utility of the information created, collected, and provided to Congress in these reports.

Madam Speaker, VA submits thousands of pages of reports to Congress each year and I hope my colleagues on both sides of the aisle will join me in this effort to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of government information management.

HONORING THE GARDEN CITY COUGARS

### HON. THADDEUS G. McCOTTER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 8, 2008*

Mr. McCOTTER. Madam Speaker, today I rise to acknowledge the Garden City Cougars, champion women's high school softball team, upon reaching Garden City High School's first team State title.

The Cougars, a MHSAA Division 1 team, were determined to achieve victory this season. Led by Head Coach, Barry Patterson and Assistant Coaches, Al Russell, Mark Minch,

and Chuck Drewicz, the Cougars were on the prowl; knocking teams out of the tournament bracket left and right. The final game was a nail-biter. With two outs and a 2-2 count, senior Hallie Minch slammed the game winning hit, driving in teammate Katie Torok to make the final score 2 to 1.

The Cougars season rounded out to 32 wins and 6 losses after the championship game on June 14, 2008. To seniors, Hallie Minch, Christina Seward, Katie Torok, Stacey Brickan, Kristina Susalla, Tricia York, Breannea King, and Karen Greficz; juniors, Shannon Pietruska, Katelyn Shattleroe, Jenniger Leone, Melissa Dimitrijevic, Amanda Quartz; sophomore Allison Chiti, and Freshmen, Carley Shattleroe and Naomi Oxendine, the thrill of softball will have given them an unforgettable day on Bailey Field.

Madam Speaker, the Garden City Cougars deserve to be recognized for their determination, achievement, and spirit. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Garden City Cougars for obtaining this spectacular title and honoring their devotion to our community and country.

RECOGNIZING EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT, DISASTER RECOVERY AND RELIEF EFFORTS IN MADISON COUNTY

### HON. MIKE PENCE

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 8, 2008*

Mr. PENCE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and recognize the extraordinary contributions of emergency management, disaster response, and recovery personnel as well as elected officials and community leaders in my district which was devastated by the recent severe weather in Indiana.

I wish particularly to honor the Board of Commissioners, County Council, and all the other outstanding individuals in Madison County who rose to the occasion during these difficult times. This area suffered greatly from severe storms and weather, creating a catastrophe of nature that inflicted injuries, destroyed property, and displaced many of our citizens. In response, these officials went above and beyond the call of duty, showing great poise while saving many lives and serving the people of their communities.

Madam Speaker, I commend these fine men and women for their tremendous dedication to the Hoosier families, businesses, farmers and communities that they serve. As Hoosiers continue to recover from Mother Nature's fury, I feel confident that the people of Madison County will be well served by these officials.

TRIBUTE TO BARBARA TRIEFF

### HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 8, 2008*

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Mrs. Barbara Trieff, an English and journalism teacher at Interstate 35 High School in Truro, Iowa, on the occasion of her retirement. I also wish to express my appreciation for Barbara's dedication and commitment to the youth of Iowa.



For the past 34 years, Mrs. Trieff has contributed her time and talents to improving youths' lives through education and mentoring. She grew up on a farm and graduated from Orient Macksburg High School in 1970 before attending Simpson College in Indianola, Iowa. In 1975 she started her career in education by teaching junior high English at Westwood in Sloan, Iowa. After her first year of teaching, she applied for, and obtained a high school English teaching position at Interstate 35 High School where she remained for the next 32 years. Mrs. Trieff certainly left a positive mark at I-35 High School, playing a crucial role in many school programs including the development of the Life Skills course, Career Planning, Career Day, the job shadowing program, and instating a reading program as well as the Advanced Placement English literature class.

Mrs. Trieff has truly made a lasting impact on students, family and faculty throughout her illustrious career, and her leadership at I-35 will certainly be missed by everyone. I consider it an honor to represent Mrs. Barbara Trieff in the United States Congress, and I wish her and her husband Richard a happy and healthy retirement.

IN RECOGNITION OF WPIX-TV ON  
THE OCCASION OF ITS 60TH AN-  
NIVERSARY

**HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 8, 2008*

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to WPIX-TV, the award-winning and groundbreaking New York City television station historically known to millions of New Yorkers as Channel 11. This month, the first independent television station in our nation's greatest city is celebrating its 60th anniversary. All Americans should pay tribute to its remarkable success in bringing thoughtful, newsworthy and entertaining programming into our homes over the course of the past six decades.

Since its founding, WPIX-TV has been a leader in the field of television broadcasting. A pioneer, it established a standard of innovative, visionary programming that other TV stations have sought to emulate. It never lost sight of its mission to deliver the most accurate, timely, and pertinent issues of the day. Even as the television industry has undergone huge changes, WPIX-TV's originality, creativity, and understanding remain its hallmarks today.

The flagship station of the CW Television Network, WPIX-TV is seen in more than 10 million homes. It has come a long way from the humble origins of its launch. The station's top-rated CW network programming, the award-winning CW11 News at Ten, the CW11 Morning News, its extensive library of hit movies, first-run programs, off-network sitcom favorites, quality children's programming and public affairs shows, and outstanding event coverage have contributed immensely to the station's success. Under the leadership of News Director Karen Scott and with outstanding reporting by veteran broadcast journalists like the Emmy Award-winning Marvin Scott, WPIX-TV's news programming remains widely respected, not just in the nation's larg-

est media market, but around the country, and at the able direction of Vice President and General Manager Betty Ellen Berlamino, WPIX-TV continues to maintain its distinctive flair and brand identity.

WPIX-TV has earned more than 150 Emmy Awards, including for Outstanding Morning News Program and for its News at 10. In addition, the CW11 has been honored with numerous Edward R. Murrow Awards, New York State Broadcasters Awards, New York State Associated Press Broadcasters Awards, New York Press Club Awards, and Deadline Club Awards for excellence in reporting, news coverage, public affairs, news specials, and features.

Over the course of six decades, WPIX has marked numerous milestones in TV history, including the first use of instant replay, which took place on July 17, 1959 during its broadcast of a ballgame between the New York Yankees and the Chicago White Sox. WPIX also aired the first appearance on New York television of the Rolling Stones on "The Clay Cole Show" in 1964. From the Giants to the Yankees to the Mets, from Cap'n Jack McCarthy to Officer Joe Bolton, WPIX has enjoyed a rich and illustrious history. The little station that could, WPIX and its talented and hard-working employees have richly earned the right to celebrate the station's 60th anniversary. Its success derives from the resilience and drive required to realize the American dream.

In addition to its broadcasting excellence, WPIX has dedicated itself to community service. In 1981, it partnered with the McCormick Tribute Foundation to create the CW11 Care for Kids fund. Since its creation, the fund has provided more than \$7 million in grants to outstanding nonprofit organizations in the Tri-State area that address the unmet needs of kids and their families, including AIDS support services, drop-out prevention, drug abuse prevention/treatment, and child abuse prevention/treatment programs. These interests address a wide range of children's needs and the goal of this fund is not only to provide grants, but also significant programming that is important to families with children and teenagers.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing the enormous contributions to our lives made by WPIX-TV Channel 11 New York.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO BOB  
STOLDAL

**HON. JON C. PORTER**

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 8, 2008*

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, it is my distinct pleasure to rise today to honor Bob Stoldal by entering his name in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, the official record of the proceedings and debates of the United States Congress since 1873. Today, I honor Bob Stoldal for his devoted service to the Las Vegas community and congratulate him on his retirement.

Bob has been an institution in journalism circles in Las Vegas for five decades, most recently as the top news executive for KLAS-TV Channel 8. Bob began his career in journalism as a typesetter for the Las Vegas Review

Journal in 1960, and later moved from print media to radio working as a reporter for KLAS radio in the early 1960s. In 1966, Bob moved to what is now KNTV Channel 13 as a part time sports reporter and weatherman and later moved to KLAS-TV as a reporter and anchor. Over the course of his career, Bob has been dedicated to providing accurate reporting on important events and correcting historical inaccuracies about the Las Vegas area. Bob's knowledge of history and events in Las Vegas are irreplaceable, and the passion and ethics he brought to the field has shaped hundreds of journalists.

Bob also serves as the Chairman of the Nevada State Museum and Historical Society as well as the Las Vegas Historical Preservation Commission. Additionally, Bob served as a historian for Las Vegas' centennial celebration in 2005.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor Bob Stoldal. His journalistic practices serve as an example for the next generation, and I applaud him on his success. I also commend Bob for his dedication to history and his efforts to ensure its accuracy for posterity. I wish him the best in his retirement and with his future endeavors.

THE DAILY 45: WILLIS GRAHAM

**HON. BOBBY L. RUSH**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 8, 2008*

Mr. RUSH. Madam Speaker, everyday, 45 people, on average, are fatally shot in the United States. Too many lives are cut short unnecessarily.

Just yesterday, in Chicago, 29-year-old Willis Graham was found suffering gunshot wounds. He was dead upon arrival at the hospital from multiple gunshot wounds, according to police. This shooting occurred on Chicago's south side in the Englewood community. Another family grieves. Another gun became the tool used to take the life of a human being. I could stop speaking on this issue, but am I not my brother's keeper? Are you not your brother's keeper?

Americans of conscience must come together to stop the senseless death of "The Daily 45." When will Americans say "enough is enough, stop the killing!"

IN RECOGNITION OF JUDY  
NEWBILL BURNS AS SANTA  
ROSA COUNTY, FLORIDA'S POINT  
OF LIGHT RECIPIENT

**HON. JEFF MILLER**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 8, 2008*

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, it is an honor for me to rise today in recognition of Judy Newbill Burns as Santa Rosa County, Florida's Point of Light Recipient.

For the past 6 years, Ms. Burns has volunteered her time to help autistic children. Through the Autism Society of the Panhandle, Ms. Burns has vigorously worked to expand educational opportunities for children with autism. The Kids for Camp Program, spearheaded by Ms. Burns and the Autism Society



of the Panhandle, provides 6 weeks of education for over 50 children with autism and provide instructional workshops for local special education teachers. Daily activities at the camp include arts and crafts, swimming, canoeing, and other therapeutic activities. The camp is intended to provide a normal summer vacation for those afflicted with autism.

The Point of Light Award recognizes a Florida resident who demonstrates exceptional service to the community. Recipients are announced each week and prior to their selection are reviewed by a panel of judges that are considered leaders in the areas of volunteerism and service. Volunteers play a vital role in the extension of education. Ms. Burns has exceeded the expected duties of a volunteer and her recognition as Santa Rosa County, Florida's Point of Light is evidence of her immense philanthropy. Ms. Burns' dedication and devotion to autistic children benefits the entire community and her outstanding accomplishments have distinguished her as one of the great people in Northwest Florida. Santa Rosa County is greatly indebted to her service and is honored to have her as one of their own.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am proud to recognize Judy Newbill Burns on this outstanding achievement.

#### HONORING THE KOSHARE INDIAN DANCERS

#### HON. MARILYN N. MUSGRAVE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 8, 2008*

Mrs. MUSGRAVE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Koshare Indian Dancers, who are celebrating 75 years of history and culture.

The Koshare Indian Dancers offered refuge, hope, and a spirit of camaraderie to boys during Depression-era America. In 1933, a group of young boys from southeastern Colorado decided to study the heritage of their area. They formed an archaeology and Indian club where they could study the history, culture and artifacts of the lower Arkansas Valley. Soon, with the help of their young Scout master, J.F. "Buck" Burshears, they were meeting with elders representing both the Plains Indians and many different Pueblos across New Mexico and Arizona. The elders embraced the youthful enthusiasm of these boys, teaching them dances, songs, and many different aspects of the ways of their ancestors. Buck dubbed the new club Koshares, the Hopi word for "clown" or "fun maker," and the Koshare Indian Dancers have been going strong ever since.

"The club grew beyond anything we ever thought it would be," said Dr. William Sisson. He and his friend Robert Inman held the first meeting of the Koshare Club. Soon it was an organization of hundreds of boys, who continued to pass on their knowledge from generation to generation. An important part of what they passed on was love for, and protection of, the land, living honestly and with integrity, and learning how to be a leader who embraces community service. That sense of service grew from a community focus to a nation-

wide focus, as hundreds of Koshares served in every war in which the United States has fought since World War II.

"Doing those dances was demanding and required hard work," said one of the original organizers, Jimmy Taylor. "The dances were important to learn, but it was more important what you took with you throughout your life from the experience. It gave young boys an outlet for their energy, gave them a sense of accomplishment, and it trained their minds to analyze and complete a project." Mr. Taylor went on to West Point and served his country during World War II with honors.

The loss of Koshares during World War II spurred their vast collection of art and artifacts. In memory of their fallen comrades, they originally bought three paintings. By continuing to gather pieces over the years, the Koshares amassed one of the most extensive collections of southwestern art and artifacts in the West.

Service remains a large part of the meaning of the organization. The Koshares continue to foster leadership skills and to provide an environment for young people to learn about the heritage of Southeastern Colorado. They also persist in sharing that heritage with others through their museum and performances. Boys, and now girls, benefit from the program, and the Arkansas Valley is richer because of the history and culture provided by the Koshare Indian Dancers. It is my distinct honor to recognize the Koshares and to wish them continued success.

#### COMPTROLLER RECOGNIZES THE SIGNIFICANCE OF RELATIONSHIP WITH THE CARIBBEAN DURING CARICOM CONFERENCE IN NEW YORK

#### HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 8, 2008*

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to bring your attention to remarks made by New York City Comptroller William C. Thompson, Jr. during the CARICOM Conference luncheon at the Brooklyn Marriott Hotel on Thursday the 19th of June.

Bill spoke first and foremost to the uniqueness of the New York Caribbean relationship. He mentioned, "While Caribbean Americans made up only 5 percent of the United States' foreign-born population in the 2000 Census, over one in five foreign-born residents of New York City came from the Caribbean. He also recognized the tremendous economic potential that the New York Caribbean population has; "Caribbean Americans are creating jobs and stimulating the economy with businesses across the city . . . [and] helping to insulate us from the cyclical highs and lows in our finance and real estate sectors."

Most importantly, Mr. Thompson spoke of the increasingly influential role that emerging markets are having on the world economy. "Since 2002, emerging markets have outperformed many developed markets" and "It is estimated that forty-five percent of the aggregate Gross Domestic Product in the world comes from emerging markets today." He

made it clear that he will be considering the Caribbean as, a place to invest funds under his control as New York City Comptroller.

The CARICOM Conference was crucial to address key issues of enterprise in the Caribbean but also to recognize the substantial economic influence of Caribbean nations as well as their enormous potential for growth.

#### TRIBUTE TO CASSIE KEITT WEEKS

#### HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 8, 2008*

Mr. CLYBURN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a wonderful constituent on the occasion of her 100th birthday. Mrs. Cassie Keitt Weeks of Fort Motte, South Carolina will become a centenarian on August 5, 2008. This is a remarkable milestone that few of us are ever able to achieve.

Cassie Keitt is the daughter of the late Hattie Young and Elijah "Bub" Keitt of Fort Motte. She was married to the late Jesse Weeks, Sr.

Mrs. Weeks can trace her ancestry to slaves on the Lang Syne Plantation and the Goshen Plantations in Fort Motte. Both Mrs. Weeks and her husband were employed by the Peterkin family at the Lang Syne Plantation until their retirement.

The church is a central part of Mrs. Weeks' life. Her great-grandfather is on the original deed as an organizer of Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church in Fort Motte. It was the first church organized by former slaves in the community, and Mrs. Weeks attends that church today. She is among the church's staunchest supporters and serves in a number of capacities. She is a Church Mother, a member of the Senior Choir and Sunday school class, and serves as a pastor's aide. She is an avid fundraiser, a homecoming and friends and family day captain, and a member of the building and kitchen committees. She also serves as the church historian. When asked about the secret to her longevity, Mrs. Weeks replies, "trusting in the Lord." She also adds, "I like it on this side. This is all I know, so I will stay as long as I can."

Among her other pleasures when she was able were making Lye soap and quilting bees. The Weeks home was always the gathering place for friends and family. Today she still enjoys sitting on the porch and entertaining visitors. She is also a very avid voter, and never misses the opportunity to cast her ballot.

Mrs. Weeks family provides her tremendous strength and joy. She is the mother of four children: daughters Rebecca Weeks Brown and Hattie Belle Weeks Scott and sons Jesse Weeks, Jr. (deceased) and Julius Weeks.

She is the grandmother of eight; great grandmother of eighteen; and the great, great grandmother of three. In addition she has a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and many, many friends.

Madam Speaker, I invite you and my colleagues to join me today in wishing a happy 100th birthday to Cassie Keitt Weeks. This strong matriarch remains independent and active, and serves as an example to us all. I wish her health, happiness and Godspeed on this momentous occasion!



## COMMENDING NAHRO

**HON. JIM McDERMOTT**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 8, 2008*

Mr. McDERMOTT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend the National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials (NAHRO) and their partners in the non-profit, governmental, and private sectors for embarking on their 2008 Housing America Campaign.

The affordable housing issues that the Housing America Campaign raises affect every Congressional district in this country. The statistics are grim: 750,000 Americans are homeless on any given night and 3½ million experience homelessness at some point in each year. I'm worried that these numbers will only increase as the foreclosure crisis continues.

More than 15 million American families now pay more than half of their income for housing. Too many of these families also make less than 50 percent of their area's median income and yet still are stuck on waiting lists for government assistance. Where I live in Seattle there are thousands of families on waiting lists for Section 8.

In Seattle the "fair market rent" established by HUD is over \$900 a month for a 2-bedroom apartment. In order to be able to afford this, without paying more than 30 percent of their income on rent, someone in Seattle would have to be making \$37,000 a year or about \$18/hour, which is more than double the minimum wage in Washington State and about triple the current Federal minimum wage.

I am relieved that the House has taken meaningful action to address the affordable housing shortage by passing legislation to create an Affordable Housing Fund. This critical fund will provide about \$500 million per year to finance construction, maintenance, and preservation of affordable housing throughout the country.

In addition, the House has passed legislation that increases the loan limits for government-backed loans, helps homeowners in trouble refinance their home loans and to provide funding to revitalize neighborhoods where foreclosures have been rampant, and to modernize and expand the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit.

We have more work to do in Congress and it will probably require an administration with a greater commitment to addressing the affordable housing crisis in the U.S. But we should all be grateful to NAHRO and their partners for sounding the alarm and raising awareness both in the Congress and around the country. They make our jobs much easier.

I look forward to continuing to work with the Housing America Campaign as we fight for affordable housing opportunities for every family in this country.

## RECOGNIZING MR. JACK HOPKINS

**HON. FRED UPTON**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 8, 2008*

Mr. UPTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Mr. Jack Hopkins of Kalamazoo,

Michigan, for his 25 years of distinguished service to the Kalamazoo Community Foundation and the greater Kalamazoo area.

Jack began working with the Kalamazoo Community Foundation in 1983 and was named its president/CEO in 1994. Under his esteemed leadership, the foundation's assets have grown exponentially, allowing millions to be invested in the local community. At the same time, Jack has volunteered with more than 30 local nonprofit organizations dedicated to enhancing the economic vitality and cultural richness of the Kalamazoo region. Further accomplishments include his work to help create the Arts Fund of Kalamazoo County, establish an active Youth United Way program, and initiate the Community Foundation's BetterTogether/Kalamazoo social capital initiative.

Apart from his work in Kalamazoo, Jack has also been a leader at the regional and national levels. He was the first chair of the Council on Foundations' Community Foundation Leadership Team and board vice chair of the Council of Michigan Foundations. He has also served on the board of the Community Foundations of America and was former chair of Michigan Community Foundations Ventures.

The Kalamazoo Community Foundation was established for the betterment of the greater Kalamazoo community. Jack's personal and professional legacy is one that exemplifies this mission. Jack Hopkins has been a truly exceptional asset to the Kalamazoo community.

Once again, I would like to personally congratulate and thank Jack for his many years of service. Southwest Michigan is and will forever be a better place to live and work because of his contributions.

## IN HONOR OF JASON DALE LEWIS

**HON. CHRISTOPHER S. MURPHY**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 8, 2008*

Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut. Madam speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of Jason Dale Lewis, who was killed in combat just over a year ago on July 6, 2007, in Baghdad. Petty Officer 1st Class Lewis called Brookfield, Connecticut, his home, along with his wife Donna and their three children.

Just 30 years old, Petty Officer 1st Class Lewis was a uniquely skilled member of an elite Navy SEAL unit. Highly decorated, he earned the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal, the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal, the Navy "E" ribbon, two Good Conduct Medals, the Navy and Marine Corps Overseas Service ribbon, the Expert Rifleman Medal, and the Expert Pistol Shot Medal. Petty Officer 1st Class Lewis was truly an elite among elites.

A year has passed since Jason left us. But the example he set, for his family, for his community, and for his Nation, will last forever. Our society is beset by those who live lives defined by unmet, wasted potential. That wasn't a problem for Jason. He knew how great he could be, as a man, as a father, and as a SEAL. And in 30 short years, he achieved that greatness.

As Americans, we hold dear the values of honor, courage and commitment. Petty Officer 1st Class Lewis embodied those characteris-

tics on and off the battlefield. His valor in defense of his country and his unceasing love for his community and family lend credence to the notion that the fullest lives are those lived for the greater good.

## INTRODUCING THE ENERGY EFFICIENT AND ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY AUTOMOBILE TAX CREDIT ACT

**HON. RON PAUL**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 8, 2008*

Mr. PAUL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Energy Efficient and Environmentally Friendly Automobile Tax Credit Act, legislation that will help Americans reduce pollution and the amount they pay for gas. My legislation accomplishes these important goals by providing Americans a tax credit of up to \$2,000 when they sell or trade in a car and obtain a vehicle that has at least a 20 percent higher average fuel economy than the sold or traded-in car. The bill also creates a Federal tax deduction for any State or local taxes paid on the purchase of the more fuel-efficient automobile and makes interest on loans to purchase the more fuel-efficient automobile tax deductible.

This legislation will help Americans cope with high gas prices by making it easier for them to obtain more fuel-efficient cars. I hope my colleagues would agree that Congress should provide free market incentives to make it easier for Americans to exchange their current cars for cars that create less pollution.

Providing tax deductions and tax credits to make it easier for Americans to purchase fuel-efficient automobiles is a win for American consumers, a win for the environment, and a win for those of us who favor free market solutions to pollution and high gas prices. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

## A TRIBUTE TO MATTIE STEPANEK

**HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 8, 2008*

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute today to Mattie Stepanek, an extraordinary young man who touched thousands of people with his messages of hope and peace.

Mattie was afflicted with dysautonomic mitochondrial myopathy, a form of muscular dystrophy, which took his life at age 13 in 2004. Despite his illness, Mattie dedicated his life to promoting hope, peace and tolerance through his role as a national goodwill ambassador for the Muscular Dystrophy Association and through his advocacy for people with disabilities through his inspiring words of poetry.

Mattie is remembered for his kindness, grace and vitality. He saw his disease not as a hindrance but as a vehicle to reach out to the hearts of many. He shared his message of peace and tolerance with school children, business leaders, medical personnel, religious groups and so many others throughout the world. Indeed, his message touched people of



all ages, races, nationalities, faiths, abilities and aspirations. He lived by the words of his timeless philosophy, "Remember to play after every storm."

Mattie is being remembered in my congressional district this week, which has been proclaimed "Mattie Stepanek Week" by the city of Rockville, Maryland. The week's primary event is the second annual Heartsongs Swim, hosted by the Rockville Municipal Swim Center, which will raise money to expand the handicapped accessibility of the Mattie J.T. Stepanek Park in Rockville and for the completion of statues of Mattie and his service dog Micah, which will be installed and dedicated this fall in the park.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to remember with fondness and humility Mattie Stepanek, an ambassador of peace for all humanity, and to join my constituents in commemorating Mattie Stepanek Week in Rockville, Maryland.

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IN RECOGNITION OF REVEREND  
CLANSTON SEYMORE UPON HIS  
40TH ANNIVERSARY AS PASTOR  
OF GREATER PEACE MIS-  
SIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

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**HON. JEFF MILLER**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 8, 2008*

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, it is an honor for me to rise today in recognition of Reverend Clanston Seymore upon his 40th anniversary as pastor of Greater Peace Missionary Baptist Church.

For the past 40 years, Reverend Seymore has been passionately committed to his community. Prior to serving as the fourth pastor of Greater Peace Missionary Baptist Church, Reverend Seymore had already ministered five other churches. He was ordained in 1965 and immediately began what he knew was his calling.

His dedication to the area has resonated in leadership positions in civic activities as well as community service projects. From 1975 to 1977, Reverend Seymore served as president of the Okaloosa County branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, NAACP. Additionally, multiple community outreach organizations have taken root through the efforts of Reverend Seymore, including Community Love Center of Fort Walton Beach, Florida, and Positive Encouragement and Character Enhancement, PEACE. Reverend Seymore also serves as an advisor to the Martin Luther King Holiday Celebration Committee.

The civic duties Reverend Seymore has performed, as well as his outstanding tenure as pastor of Greater Peace Missionary Baptist Church, is a reflection of his dedication to the First District of Florida.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am proud to honor Reverend Seymore for his enduring allegiance to our great Nation and the State of Florida.

HONORING ALBERT CAREY  
CASWELL

**HON. MARILYN N. MUSGRAVE**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 8, 2008*

Mrs. MUSGRAVE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Albert "Burt" Carey Caswell, who for 22 years has been giving tours of our Capitol building.

Burt Caswell was born in Baltimore, MD, in 1953. He graduated from the University of Maryland and obtained a master's degree in education from Bowie State. Mr. Caswell went on to teach physical education, health, and science to K-6th graders in a private school in Washington, DC. He also served as the assistant lacrosse coach at the University of Maryland for 5 years.

In 1986, Mr. Caswell joined the Capitol Guide Service. Burt is well known by members and staff for the enthusiasm he brings to his work, and for his love for members of the United States military. For approximately 14 years, he has given personal Capitol tours to injured soldiers from Walter Reed Army Hospital. Several times each week, Burt picks up soldiers in the evenings to give them tours in his free time.

Another demonstration of Mr. Caswell's love for his country is his poetry. He has written numerous works on various patriotic themes. His poems pay homage to soldiers, Members of Congress, and the Capitol building. His eloquent tribute to Martin Luther King, titled "A King Among Men," was printed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD in 2002.

Mr. Caswell's enthusiasm for the Capitol is an extension of his passion for life. He is the proud father of Jennifer Maxine Caswell, and according to him, "The greatest thing in my life is my daughter."

I want to thank Burt for 22 years of service to our Capitol, and for his sacrificial love for the men and women of our armed services.

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SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND  
IDEALS OF BLACK MUSIC MONTH

SPEECH OF

**HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 23, 2008*

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the tremendous contributions of black music to American culture. From times of slavery to the Civil Rights Movement, Black music has served the Black community as a source of inspiration and strength and continues to serve as a narrative of Black History and culture.

Spirituals that grew from the cries of slaves have evolved over hundreds of years to the Gospel, Soul, R&B, Jazz, Blues, and Rock & Roll we know today. Black music is enjoyed by the larger community in the U.S. and by an ever larger global community.

Black music was and continues to be a tool to reveal the very soul of the black man to the rest of America. In times of division and hate, black music was one of the few cultural artifacts that was shared with all Americans. "Freedom Songs" used during the civil rights

movement like "We Shall Not be Moved," "Lift Every Voice and Sing," and "We Shall Overcome," were sung by all and served as unifiers rather than dividers.

Many of the most celebrated musicians in the history of Jazz, Soul and Blues were African Americans; Lena Horn, Billie Holiday, Charlie Parker, Miles Davis, Duke Ellington and John Coltrane are all legends in their own right and have brought innovation and freshness to music that continues to inspire musicians today.

Black music is much more than words and rhythm: it is an encapsulation and reaffirmation of a cultural identity that was formed out of years of struggle and triumph. It is distinctive in the way that it uplifts the spirit and enralls the intellect. We must recognize that black music has served for generations as more than a pastime; it has been a source of strength and inspiration for a brighter future.

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HONORING MERCY SISTERS ON  
10TH ANNIVERSARY OF CASA

**HON. HENRY CUELLAR**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 8, 2008*

Mr. CUELLAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Sisters of Mercy on the 10th anniversary of their establishment of Casa de Misericordia (CASA), a shelter that provides safety, planning, education, and support for victims of domestic violence and their children.

In 1997, Sister Rosemary Welsh and her staff of health care providers from Mercy Primary Health Care Programs recognized the lack of existing community support for victims of domestic violence and their children in Laredo, Texas. A starting grant and local community support enabled them to open the doors of Casa de Misericordia. The shelter provides court accompaniment, assistance with VAWA (Violence Against Women Act) applications, and takes in victims of domestic violence and their children, not just from Webb County, but from other counties and states as well.

CASA obtained independent non-profit status by becoming a 501(c)3 in 1999, and became an annual contracting agency with the State (TDHS) in 2001. CASA received funds from the United Way and from the Office of the Attorney General. It is due to the efforts of Sisters of Mercy and to the hardworking staff that CASA has been able to help thousands of victims of domestic violence and their children. CASA is committed to involving the community in changing the perception of domestic violence, and has dozens of volunteers from Laredo Community College, Texas A&M International University, and local high schools in raising awareness about the mission behind CASA through the new Lamar Bruni Vergara Education Center, which was opened in 2004. The Education Center provide counseling, support groups, educational classes, and summer activities to members of the community who suffer from domestic violence but do not need shelter services.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to have had this time to recognize the dedication of Sister Rosemary Welsh and the Sisters of Mercy, and their staff, on the 10th anniversary of the establishment of Laredo's only domestic violence shelter, Casa de Misericordia.



A TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE OF  
YOSHITO TAKAHASHI

**HON. JIM COSTA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 8, 2008*

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life of a special man, Yoshito Takahashi of Fresno, California. Yoshito recently passed away at the age of 88 years old. He leaves behind his loving wife of 61 years Yoshiye, three children and three grandchildren.

Mr. Takahashi was born on June 16, 1920 at his family farm in Clovis, California where he lived all his life. He was the eldest son of eight children of Yoshibei and Shizuyo Takahashi, Issei immigrants from Japan. He attended Clovis Grammar School and graduated from Clovis High School.

During the outbreak of World War II, Yoshito and his family were sent to a U.S. Internment camp in Poston, Arizona, where they remained until 1945. Upon returning home to Clovis, Yoshito and his brother Ted went into farming together. Takahashi Farms was born, becoming a recognized brand in the Fresno-Clovis metropolitan area. In addition to raising stone fruit, melons, vegetables, and berries, the brothers were also engaged in a custom grape harvesting business. Yoshito continued to farm with his brother until 1992 when he retired. Yoshito was a member of the Fresno County Farm Bureau, the Central California Freestone Peach Association and Treasurer of the Nisei Farmers' League. He was also a supporter of the Central California Nisei Service Center for seniors.

Yoshito was an active member of his church, the community, and many professional and civic organizations. He served as president of the Fresno Buddhist Church, Secretary-Treasurer of the Clovis District Coordinating Council, the Clovis High School Agriculture Advisory Committee, Director of the Clovis Chamber of Commerce, and he served on the Board of Directors with the Fresno County Cancer Society, Fresno Community Hospital, Community Medical Foundation and the Clovis Rotary Club. He was the Founding Director of the Community Hospitals of Central California and Co-Chairperson of the Clovis Unified School District Foundation.

Yoshito's community involvement was felt throughout the valley and was recognized by many. In 1977, he was named Clovis "Citizen of the Year" and, in 1979 he was inducted in the Clovis Hall of Fame for his longstanding support and service to the community at large. Yoshiito's strong community ties and service-centered activities led him to receive regular recognitions by numerous local leaders as well as state and federal representatives.

It goes without saying that Mr. Yoshito Takahashi was a humble man and as well as a forever farmer at heart. His love for the outdoors led him to places such as the nearby Sierras and many destinations abroad. I am honored and humbled to join his family in celebrating the life of this amazing man. His presence will be missed in our community and by many others whose lives he so graciously touched.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE  
OF KATHLEEN CEPEDA  
SARMIENTO

**HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO**

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 8, 2008*

Ms. BORDALLO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Kathleen Cepeda Sarmiento for her lifelong service to Guam's community. Kathleen, daughter of Jose Babauta Sarmiento and Maria Cepeda Sarmiento, was an educator who influenced many young people in Guam since 1981. We honor her for her dedication to her religious community and service to our community.

In 1976, Kathleen graduated from the Academy of Our Lady of Guam, and subsequently attended the College of San Mateo in California. She returned to Guam to begin her career as an educator. At this time, she also made the decision to become a member of the Catholic religious order of the Sisters of Mercy as Sister Mary Kathleen Cepeda Sarmiento.

Kathleen pursued a Bachelor of Arts degree in Education from the University of Guam, and graduated Magna Cum Laude in 1986. In 1995, she graduated from the University of San Francisco with a Master of Arts degree in School Administration.

Kathleen served in several positions within Guam's private Catholic school system, all culminating into her role as a leader to both teachers and students. She taught Theology and Art at the Academy of our Lady of Guam, Bishop Baumgartner Junior High School, and finally at Saint Anthony School. During the latter part of her life, Kathleen served as Vice Principal and Principal of St. Augustine School in Laredo, Texas.

Kathleen was an innovator. At Saint Anthony School on Guam, she initiated the After School Extended Care Program allowing students greater opportunities for enhancing their educational interests. She implemented the Rainbows Program to help students with social and emotional difficulties. She also promoted the Student Cultural Exchange Program with students of Ako City, Japan and the Chamorro language and culture program.

Kathleen helped to develop the academic strengths of students by encouraging their participation in extracurricular activities. Under her guidance, her students excelled in the Academic Challenge Bowl, Spelling Bee, Geography Bee, Math Olympiads, Best of Carols Program, and several competitions in art, essay, and speech. Her leadership and emphasis on academic performance contributed to the accreditation of Saint Anthony School by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges. At St. Augustine High School, Kathleen was credited for enhancing the fine arts program. She helped to advance information technology at the school by implementing a laptop "lease-to-own" program for high school students and by encouraging teachers to integrate more technology into their lessons.

Kathleen was blessed with many talents. Her artistic and musical abilities were appreciated throughout the community. As a visual artist, her work was featured in numerous displays such as the American Cancer Society Art Auction, Guam Micronesia Island Fair, and displays by the Guam Council on the Arts and

Humanities. She was also talented in playing the guitar. Her music was an important part of her ministry and a means for reaching out to young people and senior citizens.

Kathleen has been recognized for her many achievements. She has been honored through the Marquis Who's Who Publications Board; Who's Who in American Education; 1991 Outstanding Young Women of America; 1990 Governor's Art Awards Program; Service Award from the Department of Parks and Recreation; and the Special Olympics.

Kathleen Cepeda Sarmiento will be remembered for her dedication and commitment to young people and her service to our community. The people of Guam join her religious community, her family and friends in honoring her and remembering her contributions as an educator and community leader.

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTION  
HONORING THE OREGON NA-  
TIONAL GUARD YOUTH CHAL-  
LENGE PROGRAM

**HON. EARL BLUMENAUER**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 8, 2008*

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, I am introducing this resolution to honor an organization committed to the Oregon ideals of leadership, self-reliance, and fortitude. For nearly 15 years the Oregon National Guard Youth Leadership Challenge Program has served the State by promoting self-confidence and fellowship among at-risk youth. More than 3,500 Oregonians likely to drop out of high school or engage in destructive behavior have entered this free and voluntary program. I'm pleased to say that the majority of these cadets have gone on to graduate the program and earn a high school degree or its equivalent.

This program has made a positive difference in countless lives and communities. This tremendous success has garnered the Oregon Program high praise, including the United Service Organizations' (USO) award for "Best Overall Program" in 2007, 2003, and 2001.

Oregonians have a great deal to be proud of. We are proud of these cadets, who are determined to succeed despite adversity, and of our National Guard, which draws strength from our communities and gives back so much. It is my hope that our Nation will learn from the example provided by the Youth Challenge Program and will be inspired by Oregon's success.

HONORING COLONEL PAUL J.  
KENNEDY

**HON. DAVID DREIER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 8, 2008*

Mr. DREIER. Madam Speaker, today I would like to honor Colonel Paul J. Kennedy. Colonel Kennedy is taking command of the Second Marine Regiment, Second Marine Division, Camp Lejeune North Carolina on July 17, 2008 after serving two years as the Director of the Marine Corps House Liaison Office.



Since June 2006, he has very ably served as a direct link between the Marine Corps and the House of Representatives, providing Members of this body the information necessary to effectively equip, maintain and support the United States Marine Corps, and ultimately provide and ensure the nation's security. I know that everyone of my colleagues who had the pleasure of working with him shares the deep respect I have come to hold for Colonel Kennedy, and has trusted his straightforward and dependable assistance. His candor and knowledge have been key in maintaining superb relationships on both sides of the Potomac. He has demonstrated a unique ability to translate the language of the House of Representatives to the language of the Marine Corps and vice versa, enabling him to provide Members of Congress with a keen understanding of the issues that affect the men and women who wear a Marine uniform.

Over the course of two very busy years, Colonel Kennedy successfully planned, coordinated and escorted over 30 international and domestic Congressional and Staff Delegations. I had the opportunity to work closely with the Colonel on many of these Congressional Delegations as part of the House Democracy Assistance Commission, as we have worked to strengthen legislatures in emerging and re-emerging democracies around the world. HDAC works directly with the Members and staff of these institutions, and our Members must travel to places as diverse as Afghanistan, Mongolia and East Timor to conduct these programs. The technical and logistical support he provided in traveling often to remote or dangerous regions ensured that our delegations were always conducted safely; professionally and effectively, and afforded us the ability to focus entirely on the quality of our programs with these legislatures in burgeoning democracies. But just as important were his insights into conflict and post-conflict regions, based on his first-hand observations from the field. They were an invaluable asset to our delegations.

Colonel Kennedy also took a number of delegations to Iraq and Afghanistan, helping to educate Members of Congress on the successes and challenges facing our service men and women who are currently in harm's way. Due to his professionalism, dedication, experience and knowledge, Colonel Kennedy became the most sought-after military escort for delegations traveling into Central Command. He has made lasting contributions to the House of Representatives. I wish the Colonel the very best as he pursues other duties within the Marine Corps. He will be missed tremendously.

Colonel Kennedy's 23 years of service have included: Executive Officer of a Weapons Company; Instructor at The Basic School and the Infantry Officer Course in Quantico, Virginia; a Weapons Company Commander and Battalion Operations Officer in Camp Pendleton; Recruiting Station Commander in San Francisco, California; Plans Officer for Pre-Operation Iraqi Freedom and Plans/Future Operations Officer for the First Marine Division during Operation Iraqi Freedom; Battalion Commander for Operation Iraqi Freedom II; and Director of the House of Representatives, Marine Corps Liaison Office. Colonel Kennedy has received the Legion of Merit with combat "V", Bronze Star, two Meritorious Service Medals, two Navy and Marine Corps Com-

mendation Medals and the Combat Action Ribbon.

HONORING CAPTAIN SILVESTER R. DEL ROSARIO, THE HIGHEST RANKING DOMINICAN AMERICAN IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY

### HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 8, 2008*

Mr. ANDREWS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Silvester R. Del Rosario for becoming the first Hispanic Aviation Limited Duty Officer in the United States Navy to achieve the rank of Captain. This promotion makes Mr. Del Rosario the highest ranking Dominican American in the United States Navy.

Captain Del Rosario was born and raised in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic. He moved to Queens, New York at the age of 17 and enlisted in the U.S. Navy in 1976. After basic training, he was rapidly promoted from "striker" to Aviation Structural Mechanic Chief Petty Officer. His first assignment was to Naval Air Station Keflavik, Iceland where he trained in structures, hydraulic, and flight control systems. Mr. Del Rosario was subsequently moved to the prestigious Navy Flight Demonstration Squadron "Blue Angels" Naval Air Station in Pensacola, Florida.

In 1990, Captain Del Rosario was selected to serve as Officer-in-Charge for the VP-45 Detachment at Cecil Field, Florida where he earned distinction when he was honored as "1990 Maintenance Officer of the Year" by the Association of Naval Aviation. Over the course of two tours to the Mediterranean and North Arabian Gulf, he was awarded the "LTJG Clint Neidecken" award for leadership, selected by Strike Fighter Wing, U.S. Atlantic Fleet as the "1993 Maintenance Officer of the Year" and honored as the 1994 COMNAVAIRLANT "Capt. Charles J. Nechvatal Aviation Maintenance Officer of the Year". Under Captain Del Rosario's management, the Naval Air Maintenance Training Unit Norfolk won the 2002 Bronze Hammer Award, the 2002 NETC Training Excellence Award, and the 2002 NETC Retention Award. In 2003, his command was recognized by the U.S. Secretary of Education as a nationally accredited institution.

Over his long career Captain Del Rosario has won many awards, including four Meritorious Service Medals, five Navy Commendation Medals, four Navy Achievement Medals, three Navy Good Conduct Medals, Navy Rifle and Pistol Expert Medals, and various service campaign and unit decorations. In light of his considerable achievement, it is fitting that Mr. Del Rosario was promoted to the rank of Captain on Thursday, July 3rd, 2008. Captain Del Rosario is an exceptional role-model for young Americans considering a career in the United States Armed Forces. I congratulate him on this achievement and wish him the best of luck in his future endeavors.

IN RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL HIV TESTING DAY

### HON. STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 8, 2008*

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of National HIV Testing Day, celebrated on Sunday, June 27th, 2008. Every year, the National Association of People with AIDS (NAPWA) and the Center for Disease Control (CDC) work in conjunction to sponsor National HIV Testing Day. This year, National HIV Testing Day used the slogan: "Take the test, take control". National HIV Testing Day is used to provide vital information about the HIV/AIDS epidemic, educate people on the affect it has on an individual and on the community, help decrease the number of newly infected Americans with HIV/AIDS by increasing the availability of HIV tests and encourage individuals to seek voluntary counseling.

Worldwide, there are 14,000 new HIV/AIDS cases daily and a total of 22 million people who have died from the epidemic. As the number of people living with HIV/AIDS in the U.S. today increases, it is crucial to acknowledge the significance of knowing your HIV/AIDS status. Every year, 40,000 Americans are newly infected with the disease and approximately 1,200,000 people in the U.S. are living with HIV/AIDS. Twenty-five percent of them are unaware of their positive status.

Over time, as scientific developments around HIV/AIDS have progressed, HIV/AIDS is no longer a death sentence, but can be treated with proper medical care. Although the positive diagnosis of HIV/AIDS is life altering, everyone deserves to know their status—for themselves, their partner, and their family. Worldwide, the HIV/AIDS epidemic carries a negative stigma that results in societal disapproval and rejection. As a country and community, we need to stand together and fight this disease to provide a healthier America for generations to follow.

On behalf of the people of the 11th Congressional District in Ohio and the United States Congress, I extend my condolences to the friends and family of people who have lost a loved one to the disease. As we stand together as Americans, we can make a difference, we can save a life.

A TRIBUTE TO TIMOTHY RUSSERT BY WILLIAM O'SHAUGHNESSY

### HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 8, 2008*

Mrs. LOWEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Timothy Russert by submitting for the record a tribute to him by the Buffalo, New York native, William O'Shaughnessy on June 16, 2008. "A Death in the Family" was broadcast on WVOX and WVIP in New York.

A DEATH IN THE FAMILY

And although we were in the care and keeping of the German Jesuits some ten years apart, Russert and I both got whacked upside the head by the same worn old leather prayer book belonging to the Reverend John



Sturm, S.J., who took most seriously his title and high estate: Prefect of Discipline.

Father John was built like a fireplug. And although an equal opportunity disciplinarian, he made Timmy Russert his favorite charge almost from the minute he first encountered the personable Irish youngster from South Buffalo with the bright eyes and easy smile. That was back in the 60's and they have been friends ever since. Canisius has turned out federal judges named Crotty and Arcara, political power brokers like Joe Crangle, big car dealers, stellar athletes including a few Holy Cross and Notre Dame quarterbacks, and doctors and lawyers of great renown. The Jesuits spotted Russert's beguiling potential early on. Even then they knew.

He would go back to Buffalo over the years to see his father and during summers better than this one Tim Russert would sit at Cole's bar in the Elmwood section to talk sports over a beer and a "beef on a weck," Buffalo's legendary version of roast beef, a steamship round of which was personally carved by the bartender and then piled on a Kimmelweck roll covered with salt to be dipped in Heinz Ketchup. The music in the air on those nights was provided by ancient tapes of Fred Klestine's old radio programs from the 50's and 60's which survive to this day at Cole's.

They would order another Simon Pure beer or a Carling's ale and talk about the rich girls who went to "The Mount," a boarding school, and about Johnny Barnes, the old Canisius High football coach and sometimes about Cornelius MacGillicuddy, a favorite teacher who owned a bar in the Parkside section over near Delaware Park.

He never lost touch with the Jesuits. And just a few weeks ago, Father Sturm, now in his 90's, sent out invitations to a scholarship luncheon in his own honor with the obligatory picture of his protégé Tim Russert on the cover.

Before his dazzling work on television which made him famous, Tim labored in the service of the two brightest minds in public life during our time: Daniel Patrick Moynihan and the estimable Mario M. Cuomo.

Someone said yesterday on television: "He wasn't exactly a pretty boy." With his cheeks and jowls, Russert was the complete antithesis of all the hyper, vacuous "talking heads" and all the bimboes—male as well as female—who sit each day in those anchor chairs praying the teleprompter doesn't fail lest they be forced to utter something more profound than "absolutely!"

Only Chris Matthews was his equal in terms of depth and intelligence. And maybe Jon Meacham or Lawrence O'Donnell or Peggy Noonan. George Stephanopoulos can hold his own in front of a camera (and in front of George Will). And classy Deborah Norville has a brain. While among the youngsters coming up—William "Billy" Bush and Chris Cuomo are bursting with intelligence and promise. Ditto Bill Geist's kid Willy. And David Gregory and Tucker Carlson are easy to take. Barbara Walters and Diane Sawyer are class acts in any season.

We've always liked Bob Scheiffer and Judy Woodruff. And how can you not like Mike Barnicle and Joe Scarborough (but not the girl with him, the one with the famous father, who talks over everybody). And I hope Larry King, like Paul Harvey on the radio, goes on forever. Plus I still take pleasure in our infrequent sightings of Rather and Brokaw.

Russert, however, operated on a level far beyond most of them. And he didn't need high tech production values or fancy overhead lighting in an ultra-modern studio to enhance and amplify his unique genius. He was to network news what Mario Cuomo is to public discourse. And as the great Cuomo

himself reminded us, "Tim never forgot where he came from and he never let us forget it either . . . and we loved him for it."

He would summer on Nantucket and go to parties at Sally Quinn's in Washington. But Russert never denied his roots in Buffalo. There was a realness about him, a genuineness, on and off the air.

A few summers ago, Russert was the main speaker at an important conference of the New York State Broadcasters Association up at Bolton Landing on Lake George. After his talk he was persuaded by our mutual friend Joe Reilly, the head of the broadcasters in the Empire State, to linger and give out the Association's Awards for Excellence . . . even as an NBC plane waited on the tarmac at the nearby Glens Falls airport to rush him back to Washington.

There were many awards and citations in every category. But Russert was his usual generous self and so he stayed late into the night as the awards presentations wore on. And when it was announced that your own WVOX had won the designation for "Best Editorials in New York State" (which we clearly did not deserve), Russert arched his eyebrows and the Irish eyes twinkled as my son David and I advanced to the front of the ballroom to receive our award.

As we posed for the cameras and the flash-bulbs popped, Tim asked, sotto voce, "How's Mario? . . . how's Nancy? . . . how are the kids? . . . how's the station?" And now as my mind drifts back on this weekend after he died, I wonder if I remembered to inquire about his own welfare? I hope so, but I doubt it, given that heady moment in the spot-lights. But he remembered.

Russert then thoughtfully pulled away my son David for a shot with just the two of them . . . and said, again on the QT, while still smiling for the cameras, "How the hell did your old man win this damn thing . . . it must have been by sheer guile! Or did Cuomo write it for him?" As the two of them cracked up with laughter, no one in the audience of more than 500 had a clue what they were chuckling about.

James O'Shea, who owns The West Street Grill, a high class saloon in Litchfield, Connecticut (he much prefers the designation "fine dining establishment") called while I was thinking about all this. According to O'Shea, "Russert possessed the genius of the Irish. Just say he was Irish. People will know what that means. He was Irish!" As O'Shea provides libation and sustenance for the likes of Philip Roth, Rex Reed, Jim Hoge, Bill vandenHeuvel, Rose Styron, George Clooney, Peter Duchin and Brooke Hayward . . . I will bow to his wisdom. Russert did indeed have the genius of the Irish.

Nancy and I would see him around town of an evening, when he would come up from Washington to do some business at the NBC Universal mother ship at Rockefeller Center or if one of us had to emcee a dinner. And no matter how late the hour or how tired and rumpled he appeared, it was always the same: "How are the kids? . . . how are the stations doing? . . . how's the gov?"

NBC delayed the news of his passing and actually got scooped by the New York Post and the Times until someone from their shop was retrieved to go and inform his wife Maureen Orth, their son Luke, and his beloved father Big Russ. But who, I wonder, had to knock on the door of the old priest in the Jesuit retirement house on Washington Street up in Buffalo to tell Father John Sturm, S.J. Timmy Russert was gone?

I always thought Russert would have made a wonderful politician himself or a great teacher. Or even a priest. And with his sudden, untimely departure at 58, he probably taught us one more lesson learned from the old Jesuits: "You know not the hour . . . or the moment."

The newsman-journalist known as Tim Russert has been mourned by millions and eulogized in all the journals and periodicals in the land. But the most exquisite tribute, and probably the one he would have liked the most came from Michelle Spuck, a waitress at Bantam Pizza in the Litchfield hills, who told a customer over the weekend, "I'm so sad about this . . . I never met him . . . but I knew him."

He died in front of a microphone.  
This is Bill O'Shaughnessy.

## RECOGNIZING ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF TOMMIE ANN GIBNEY

### HON. PHIL ENGLISH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 8, 2008*

Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I want to bring to the attention of my colleagues the important accomplishments of Tommie Ann Gibney. Ms. Gibney is a shining example of a woman who tries hard and succeeds brilliantly. She does it all. She is a professional, a distinguished attorney, friend of many, wife, mother, and in June of this year Ms. Gibney will add president. She will be one of only three women to ever hold the prestigious position as president of the Association of Trial Lawyers of America/New Jersey, an organization of over 2100 attorneys, paralegals, law clerks and law school graduates who protect New Jersey families by advocating for safer products and workplaces, a cleaner environment, and quality health care.

Ms. Gibney attended Seton Hall University for her undergraduate, graduate, and law school degrees. As an associate at Andres and Berger in Haddonfield, New Jersey, Ms. Gibney fights tirelessly for victims of nursing home abuse and neglect. She volunteers her services and vast legal knowledge to Trial Lawyers Care, 9–11 Legal Assistance, and to the Hyacinth Aids Foundation. She is a role model for all law professionals both in and outside of the courtroom. My congratulations to Tommie Ann Gibney and her family.

## SUNSET MEMORIAL

### HON. TRENT FRANKS

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 8, 2008*

Mr. FRANKS of Arizona. Madam Speaker, I stand once again before this House with yet another Sunset Memorial.

It is July 8, 2008 in the land of the free and the home of the brave, and before the sun set today in America, almost 4,000 more defenseless unborn children were killed by abortion on demand. That's just today, Madam Speaker. That's more than the number of innocent lives lost on September 11 in this country, only it happens every day.

It has now been exactly 12,951 days since the tragedy called Roe v. Wade was first handed down. Since then, the very foundation of this Nation has been stained by the blood of almost 50 million of its own children. Some of them, Madam Speaker, cried and screamed as they died, but because it was amniotic fluid passing over the vocal cords instead of air, we couldn't hear them.



All of them had at least four things in common. First, they were each just little babies who had done nothing wrong to anyone, and each one of them died a nameless and lonely death. And each one of their mothers, whether she realizes it or not, will never be quite the same. And all the gifts that these children might have brought to humanity are now lost forever. Yet even in the glare of such tragedy, this generation still clings to a blind, invincible ignorance while history repeats itself and our own silent genocide mercilessly annihilates the most helpless of all victims, those yet unborn.

Madam Speaker, perhaps it's time for those of us in this Chamber to remind ourselves of why we are really all here. Thomas Jefferson said, "The care of human life and its happiness and not its destruction is the chief and only object of good government." The phrase in the 14th Amendment capsulizes our entire Constitution. It says, "No State shall deprive any person of life, liberty or property without due process of law." Madam Speaker, protecting the lives of our innocent citizens and their constitutional rights is why we are all here.

The bedrock foundation of this Republic is the clarion declaration of the self-evident truth that all human beings are created equal and endowed by their Creator with the unalienable rights of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Every conflict and battle our Nation has ever faced can be traced to our commitment to this core, self-evident truth.

It has made us the beacon of hope for the entire world. Madam Speaker, it is who we are.

And yet today another day has passed, and we in this body have failed again to honor that foundational commitment. We have failed our sworn oath and our God-given responsibility as we broke faith with nearly 4,000 more innocent American babies who died today without the protection we should have given them.

So Madam Speaker, let me conclude this Sunset Memorial in the hope that perhaps someone new who heard it tonight will finally embrace the truth that abortion really does kill little babies; that it hurts mothers in ways that we can never express; and that 12,951 days spent killing nearly 50 million unborn children in America is enough; and that it is time that we stood up together again, and remembered that we are the same America that rejected

human slavery and marched into Europe to arrest the Nazi Holocaust; and we are still courageous and compassionate enough to find a better way for mothers and their unborn babies than abortion on demand.

Madam Speaker, as we consider the plight of unborn America tonight, may we each remind ourselves that our own days in this sunshine of life are also numbered and that all too soon each one of us will walk from these Chambers for the very last time.

And if it should be that this Congress is allowed to convene on yet another day to come, may that be the day when we finally hear the cries of innocent unborn children. May that be the day when we find the humanity, the courage, and the will to embrace together our human and our constitutional duty to protect these, the least of our tiny, little American brothers and sisters from this murderous scourge upon our Nation called abortion on demand.

It is July 8, 2008, 12,951 days since Roe versus Wade first stained the foundation of this Nation with the blood of its own children; this in the land of the free and the home of the brave.